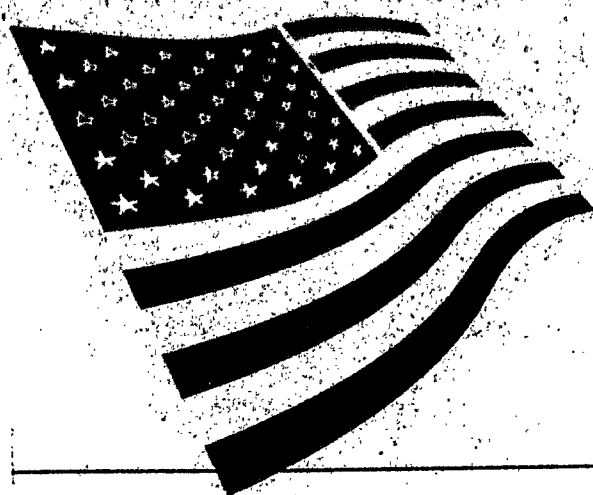


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Rollin' on the River

Navy SEALs want to step up riverine training in Stennis Buffer Zone.

Details, Page 10A



Grand Marshal Jerry West leads the Waveland Civic Association St. Patrick's Parade.

Community, Page 1B

The Sea Coast Echo

Since 1892

VOL. 112, NO. 23 BAY ST. LOUIS, MISSISSIPPI

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THREE SECTIONS, 32 PAGES 75 CENTS

Thursday
March 20, 2003

First Presbyterian to host rummage sale

First Presbyterian Church, 114 Ulman Ave., BSL, will host a rummage sale this Friday and Saturday, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more, call 467-3921.

Off-site pet adoptions in Waveland Saturday

The Waveland Animal Shelter, assisted by Friends of the Animal Shelter in Hancock County, will be hosting off-site pet adoptions this Saturday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., in front of the Waveland Kmart. Each pet has first set of shots, flea bath, worming and reduced cost spay/neuter certificate.

St. Clare School PTO hosts \$10K drawdown

The St. Clare School PTO will present a \$10,000 drawdown on Saturday to benefit the school. Limited tickets available. To take a chance or for more information, call 467-7071.

WHAT'S INSIDE

Editorial Page 4A
Obituaries Page 8A
Sports Pages 2-3B
Classified Pages 6-9B

HALFAST, ALL SMILES



The Krewe of Blarney Halfast Walkin' Klub tore through Pass Christian Sunday for its annual St. Patrick's Parade. Grand Marshal for this year's event was Mike Reader of WLOX.

Echo staff photos by Geoff Belcher



MDOT eyes moving rails for highway

Proposed project could cost \$2.7B, be done in 9 years

BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

The Mississippi Department of Transportation and DMJM Harris presented preliminary plans to Supervisors on Wednesday for moving the CSX-Railroad tracks north of the I-10 corridor.

Funding for the two-year study, \$4 million, was appropriated from the Highway Trust Fund for Remote Sensing and Spatial Information Technology fund. The plan includes creating a new highway right-of-way south of I-10 along the Mississippi Gulf Coast by relocating the existing railroad right-of-way out of downtown areas.

Three main corridors for the move were proposed in

MOVE--PAGE 7A

Navy talks about plan for county

BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

The Navy could be coming to Hancock County to do more than maneuvers. They may soon be calling the county home. Commander Pat Butler and ENCM Kenneth Kopcsa from SEALs Boat Unit 22 at Stennis Space Center and other planners met with supervisors on Wednesday to discuss the possibility of locating up to 90 units of military housing in the county, 30 units by 2005 and up to 60 more later.

NAVY--PAGE 7A

Bay-W'land schools consider drug testing

BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

Is mandatory drug testing coming to the Bay-Waveland School District? Probably not right away decided school board members at the March meeting on Monday.

School Superintendent Kim Stasny brought up the

possibility, but most board members said they preferred to use funds for more proactive measures such as educational programs. The Hancock County School District already does mandatory drug testing in its high school and middle

TESTING--PAGE 7A

TIDES

Sun 2:36 p. 1:27 a.
Mon. 3:45 p. 3:06 a.
Tues. 5:06 p. 4:36 a.
Wed. 6:33 p. 5:48 a.
Thurs. 7:52 p. 6:43 a.

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We're Here For You

Bay P.D.'s Cox, Dar earn statewide 'Top Dog' status

BY SHANNON JENKINS
Staff Writer

The Bay St. Louis Police Department K-9 team recently achieved the status of "Top Dog" in Mississippi.

The team, composed of Sgt. Paul K. Cox Jr. and police service dog K-9 Dar, won the overall award at the K-9 Certification Trials in Brookhaven during the week of March 10. Cox and Dar had accumulated a total of 865.51 points out of a possible 900.00

points during the week-long competition.

"This really and truly would not be possible without the support from the city and my fellow officers," Cox said. "To be named 'Top Dog' is an honor for Dar, myself and the city."

The K-9 team competed with 22 other teams from across the state in the certification in vehicle narcotics detection and finished third overall

TOP DOG--PAGE 7A



Bay St. Louis Police Chief Frank McNeil, left, Sgt. Paul Cox Jr. and Dar show case several awards the department recently received at a K-9 certification trial in Brookhaven.

Echo staff photo by Shannon Jenkins

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A FEAST FIT FOR A SAINT



Dozens gathered yesterday for a St. Joseph's Altar at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Koerner at Paradise Lane in Bay St. Louis. The event marked the 38th year the couple has hosted a St. Joseph's Altar for the public.

Echo staff photo by Shannon Jenkins

Governor Musgrove raises Mississippi threat level

THE SEA COAST ECHO
Yesterday, Governor Ronnie Musgrove raised Mississippi's threat level to Orange, or high alert, in response to the similar action taken yesterday by President George Bush.

Following an early morning meeting of the Mississippi Homeland Security Council, Musgrove also issued a state of emergency to help ensure the safety of the people of Mississippi.

An executive order has been issued as well to provide for the possible deployment of Mississippi National Guard personnel to key points around the state, including Grand Gulf and ports along the Mississippi River and Gulf Coast.

"I want to assure everyone that we are prepared," said Musgrove. "While there is no specific information at this time relating to a threat against Mississippi, we can and will do everything necessary to protect our people."

The security briefing of the Mississippi Homeland Security Council was held to

outline again the state's preparedness for any threat scenario.

The council includes representatives from federal, state and local governments.

"We will continue to work with our federal and local law enforcement partners to ensure communication and coordination of any relevant security information," said Musgrove. "Everyone should continue to remain vigilant and alert."

Following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, Musgrove hosted a summit on domestic preparedness and established an Incident Command System by executive order, under which all state and local emergency personnel utilize common terminology, integrated communications, incident action, plans, unified command and management of resources during emergencies. A series of bioterrorism exercises has been held statewide, and a conference for the state's emergency responders is currently underway in Philadelphia, Mississippi.

Musgrove called on the

people of Mississippi to remember not only those who are working to protect the public safety here at home, but for those serving on the front lines of the nation's war against terrorism.

"I ask all Mississippians to join me in support of our U.S. armed forces, including more than 4,500 Mississippi National Guard and Reserve members who may be put in harm's way," Musgrove said. "Our prayers are with the President, our troops, and their families."

For more information on the state and federal threat levels and how to prepare for different scenarios, visit the state's homeland security website at www.homeslandsecurity.ms.gov.

Legion to host security forum

THE SEA COAST ECHO
American Legion Unit 139 will sponsor a "Community Security Forum" on March 31, 2003, at 6:00 p.m. at the Post Home on Green Meadow Road.

Speakers have been invited from Keesler and the National Guard, as well as Fire Department, and Police Departments.

Congressman Gene Taylor has also been invited. Many companies are being asked to set up information booths to provide security material.

Door prizes will be given and dinner will be served.

Traffic stop leads to W'land crack arrest

BY ELLIS C. CUEVAS
Publisher Emeritus

In the wee hours of Thursday, Waveland Patrolman Jeremy Skinner conducted a traffic stop that resulted in the arrest of a suspect for possession of a controlled substance (crack cocaine), according to Chief Jimmy Varnell.

"The traffic stop occurred around 12:45 a.m. at Highway 90 and Old Spanish Trail. Numerous pieces of crack cocaine were located on the passenger seat of the vehicle. In the course of the investigation it was determined that the suspect swallowed six rocks of crack cocaine," Varnell's report said.

Varnell continued, "Michelle A. Moise, 33, 6277 Pontiac Drive Kiln, was taken by American Medical Response, who was sum-

moned, to Hancock Medical Center. After he was treated, he was transported to the Hancock County Criminal Justice Facility. He was charged with possession of a controlled substance and bond set at \$5,000."

A preliminary hearing in Waveland Municipal Court has been scheduled for April 3.

Assisting Skinner was Patrolman Eddie Peterson.

Investigator Brett Ladner with the Bay-Waveland Narcotics Task Force is in charge of the investigation.

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TV Jumble

TV JUMBLE by David L. Hoyt
Use the clues to help you find the words.
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form four words.

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Sunday, April 6th

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TV Weekly

Bonus

Answers to 2/23/2003 Jumbles: AGENT BACON RETAKE CHARLES

Bonus: NBC canceled this show after three seasons because of poor ratings. STAR TREK

You can e-mail David L. Hoyt at DLHoyt@aol.com.

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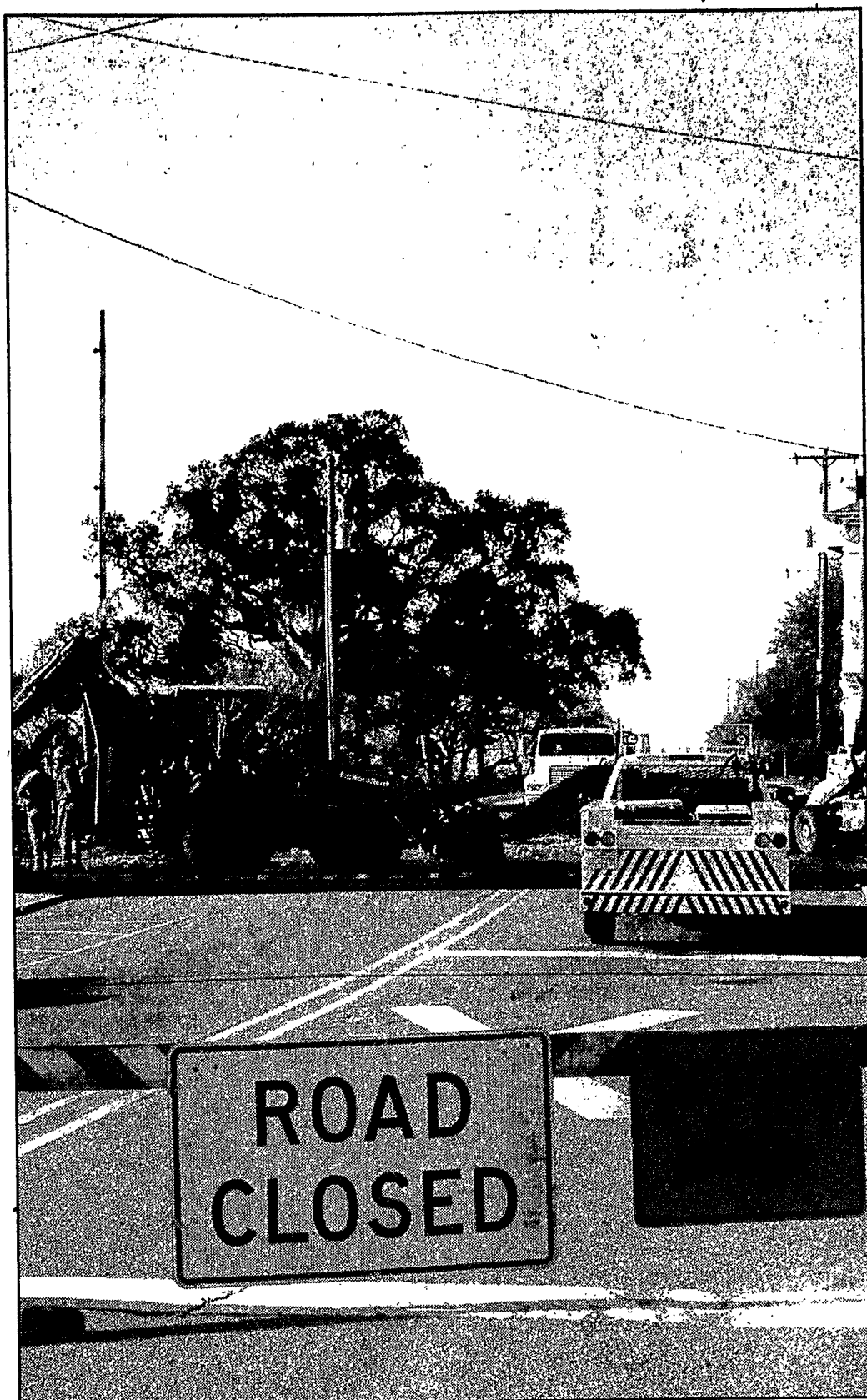
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Railroad Roadblock



The railroad crossing at Beach Blvd. and Court St. in Bay St. Louis is blocked to traffic Wednesday as CSX employees work to replace part of the track. The crossing is scheduled to be closed through Friday.

Echo staff photo by Shannon Jenkins

H.C. Little League to host open house

THE SEA COAST ECHO

Hancock County Little League Girls Fastpitch Softball at Lakeshore Field will host an open house at the field located next to Gulfview Elementary School on Saturday March 22 from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m.

All registered players and their families, or anyone interested in playing, coaching or umpiring, are invited to tour the facilities, meet the staff and learn more about the International Little League organization.

Complimentary hot dogs and soft drinks will be served and there will be softball activities available for the children. This will also be the deadline to submit volunteer applications for adult coaches and umpires as the league prepares for the draft, which will be held on Saturday April 5th.

For more information call Herb at 467-1291.

Hancock Middle Dance Team to sponsor camp

The Hancock Middle School Dance Team is sponsoring a one day dance camp for 2nd - 8th grade girls on Saturday, March 22, from 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the HMS gym. Campers will perform at the Hancock High School Spring Review in May. Cost is \$20. Special discounts are available for larger families and school employees. Contact Ursula Whitehead, 467-1889 for more information.

BEADS R US

Class Schedule for March

GLASSWARE - Saturday, March 22, 2003, 2-4 p.m.
Take beads and weave it around glassware to add a creative and fun accent to a plain object.
Instructor: Kristen Meehan

WINE GLASS CHARMS - Saturday, March 28, 2003, 2 - 4 p.m.
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Sheriff's officers assist MDC in making arrests

BY ELLIS C. CUEVAS
Publisher Emeritus

Hancock County sheriff's officers assisted the Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDC) in rounding up two persons for whom MDC had warrants, Sheriff Steve Garber said last week.

On Friday, Investigator Matt Barnett, Capt. Joe Herrin, Deputy Kent Malley and Deputy Push Phillips were assisting MDC serving a warrant on Anthony Joseph Bergnarelli, 29, on Billie Green Road, Garber said.

"While serving the warrant with MDC Officer Bill Moran, officers noticed several vehicles in the yard. In running a check on the vehicles, one was discovered as reported stolen a month ago in Diamondhead," Barnett said.

Barnett continued, "It was revealed, while making an inventory of the vehicle, stolen golf equipment

reported in another theft at Diamondhead was in the trunk."

Officers also found Bergnarelli had illegal possession of a prescription drug, Barnett added.

The investigator reported the investigation is still continuing in the case.

On Friday photos of an escapee was shown by MDC to the department, Chief Investigator Bob Lambert said.

Barnett said on Sunday, while he was purchasing gas at a county store, he recognized a suspect being sought by MDC as he walked into the store.

Barnett stated, "Shane Lawrence, 30, of Wiggins, who was wanted as an escapee, was placed under arrest and is being held for MDC in the Hancock County Criminal Justice Facility.

"There was also an outstanding warrant for Lawrence for trespassing."

Southern Miss guitarist takes first prize in state

Kelly Roth, a Bay St. Louis native and student at the University of Southern Mississippi, took first-prize honors and an award of \$600 at the National Federation of Music Clubs Competition in Jackson. A student of Professor John DeChiaro in the School of Music, Roth competed

against other guitarists and string players from across the state. Roth has won many honors during his four years at USM and has been a recipient of the Elmo and Mary Glenn Harrison Guitar scholarship at Southern Miss for the past four years. He is the son of Myra and Earl Roth.

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OPINION

Pg 4A

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Cuevas' Quotes

by Ellis C. Cuevas
Publisher Emeritus

Food pantry gets busy for spring, Lumber Yard hosts After Hours

Busy as a bee in the spring time is the story of the Hancock County Food Pantry.

On Monday, I stopped by the Food Pantry and spoke with Mrs. Evelyn Johnson, who reported business was very good.

She gave an example of Tuesday, March 11, when the food pantry had assisted 31 families, with a total of 101 people.

So, that averages out to 10 families per hour seeking assistance from the food pantry.

Its regular hours are from 9 a.m. to noon, Monday through Friday.

What this means, of course, is the supplies at the food pantry need to be replaced.

I realize there are many churches, individuals, organizations, businesses, groups, etc., who donate to the food pantry, and this is very good. Hopefully, many more will consider helping too.

The Hancock County Food Pantry is an all-volunteer organization that brings together folks from several area churches who take turns in handling the needs of deserving persons.

Yet there is a need for more food donations, cash donations, etc., to make up for the increased numbers of people in need.

Being involved with the food pantry since its inception, Mrs. Johnson recalls there were times when only six or eight families would be served in a day.

If you would like further information, give the food pantry a call between 9 a.m. to noon, Monday through Friday at 228-467-2790.

March Business After Hours

March 20
5 to 7 p.m.

Lumberyard Art Center
299 S. Second St.

Do not forget the Hancock County Chamber of Commerce's March Business After Hours set this evening from 5 to 7 p.m. at The Lumberyard Art Center, 299 S. Second St., between Bay Catholic and the railroad tracks.

Co-sponsor is ATK Thiokol Propulsion

from the John C. Stennis Space Center.

I have been told it will be a great After Hours, and as a special treat, several artists will be on hand to give demonstrations of their various abilities.

I hope to see you at the After Hours this evening.

25 Russians attending Alcorn

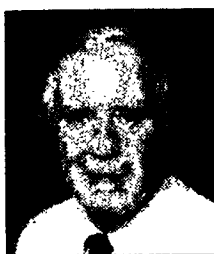
Few Mississippians — certainly not this one — knew that at least 25 Russians are attending Alcorn State University, the historically black, land grant institution nestled in the woods near Lorman.

The Russo-Alcorn State connection surprisingly has been growing ever since 1998 when a Russian tennis player was recruited via the Internet by the Braves' tennis coach.

How I learned about the Russkys at Alcorn was from a front page story last week in the New York Times which had sent a reporter to the isolated school, no doubt drawn both by the international and racial diversity in an unlikely place where diversity is a scarce commodity.

The Russians are among 281 white students at Alcorn, 8.3 percent of the entire student body.

That raises a vital Mississippi question: How does integration — the attendance of opposite-race students in Mississippi



Eyes on Mississippi

By Bill Minor

on the rolls of an all-white state university.

Fascinating as it is that several dozen students have come from far-off Russia to Alcorn, a state college I remember back in the 1960s you could only reach by driving your automobile over a cattle gap, black Mississippians are slowly mixing more and more with whites at the state's eight higher education institutions.

Some of the racial mixing at the higher education level is the result of implementation of the celebrated 1975 Ayers case. That law-

suit was brought by black plaintiffs to make institutions of higher learning in Mississippi comply with the 1964 Civil Rights Act and give open access for blacks to enroll at the traditional "white" institutions.

Unfortunately over the years, the original Ayers integration goal has been distorted by some black plaintiffs, into becoming one of only throwing more dollars at preserving the old system of separate "black" colleges which existed before the 1970s.

So far under an Ayers settlement decreed in 1997 by U.S. District Judge Neal Biggers, the Legislature was ordered to spend \$503 million over 17 years for construction, upgrading programs, and providing certain other incentives at the four black institutions, including recruitment of non-black students.

Some \$70 million has been appropriated thus far to beef up some professional programs at the black schools, the largest chunk at Jackson State University

whose mission is to be an urban university.

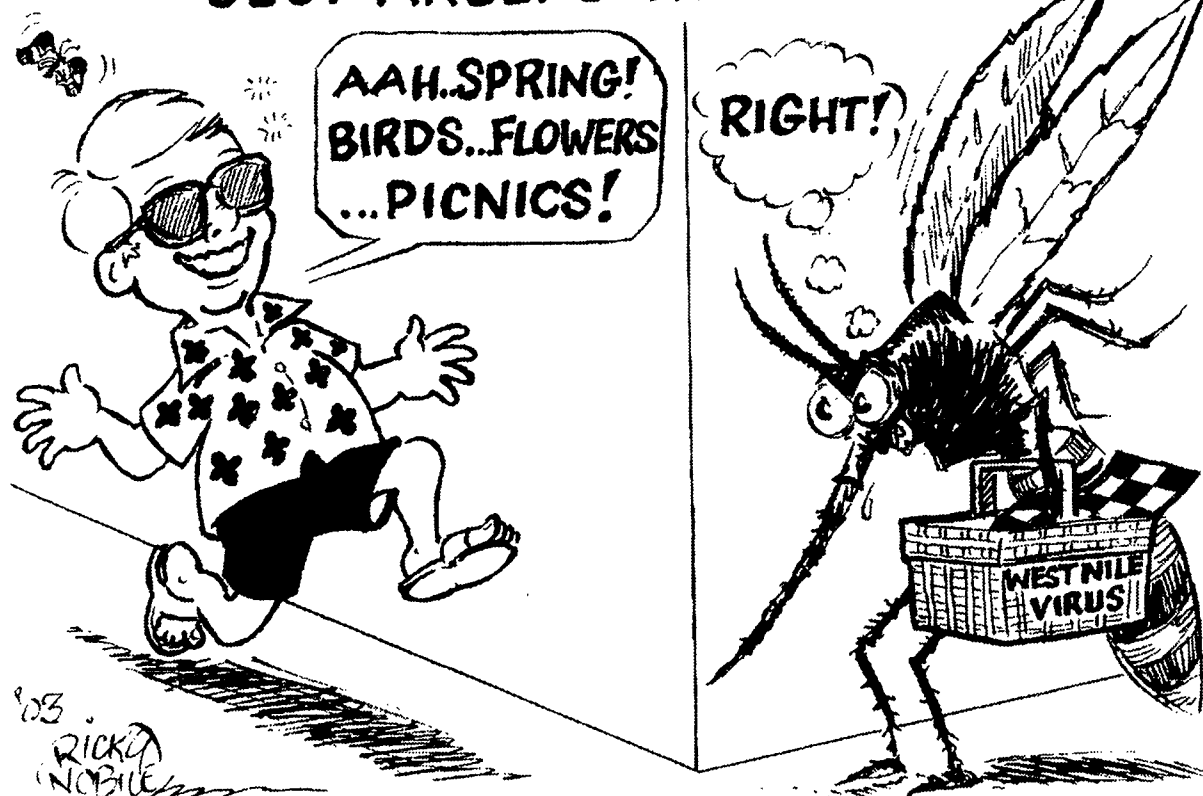
It is certainly worthy of note that a January bulletin issued by the State College Board shows that since 1997, black enrollment at historically white institutions increased by 20.4 percent, bringing the total black students in those schools to 10,385.

More significant is that the number of blacks who have enrolled at the formerly white schools in the last five years is approximately the same number who went to black institutions in the same period. That fact undermines the theory that blacks much prefer the environment of schools where members of their race predominate.

The most notable growth of African-Americans has been at the University of Southern Mississippi (34 percent), but also significant gains were made at both Mississippi State and Ole Miss, the latter having perhaps the most aggressive recruitment policy.

MINOR--5A

JUST AROUND THE CORNER



Take pride in your local hospital

We take pride and are thankful for our excellent community hospitals, the care and services they provide.

My husband, Rick, had a medical emergency - it was amazing - everyone calmly moved into action, called 911, assisted Rick, stood outside to direct emergency units. Fire and EMT personnel were prompt and professional. Hancock Medical was prepared to receive and treat.

Both Hancock Medical and Gulfport Memorial made our

10 day stay as stress free as possible while administering excellent care.

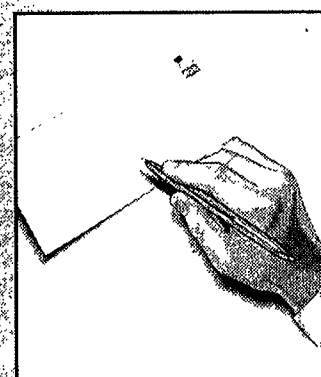
They worked as one unit - not requiring us to duplicate test etc. Our small community has state of the art diagnostic equipment and trained caring staff. They made receiving a stent and pacemaker seem like a walk in the park. Take pride in our hospitals, staff, and doctors, they rank with the best.

Jo-Ann George
Waveland

Letters to the Editor

Our letters policy

The Sea Coast Echo welcomes comments from its readers. Letters must be signed and include address or telephone number. Letters should be brief, preferably typewritten and double-spaced. Only one letter per writer per month. The editor reserves the right to edit or reject letters. Letters of thanks, expressions of appreciation and political endorsements are inappropriate.



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TECHNICALITIES

BY PHIL BRYANT
State Auditor
SCHOOLS

Q May a school district retroactively pay a school secretary salary and benefits she would have received if the school district had correctly credited her years of experience at the original date of hire?

A The district may adjust her level of experience prospectively, but there is no

authority that would allow the district to award retroactive pay for work that has already been performed and for which an agreed upon compensation has already been provided. (Attorney General's Opinion to Logan dated November 8, 2002)

Q Can there be pro-rata deductions, such as 15-minute increments, of an employee's leave time? If so, does this computation apply

to both licensed and non-licensed employees?

A Whether to permit incremental leave deductions for both licensed and nonlicensed school employees is within the discretion of the board as evidenced by the rules and regulations established for leave policies. (Attorney General's Opinion to Smith dated November 15, 2002)

Q May a school district delete from the payment of annual rentals under a developmental lease property that has been platted once roads and utilities have been con-

structed for that portion of the property?

A No. Under Section 29-3-1, adequate compensation must be received from the tenants for any use of the land other than use by the school district. (Attorney General's Opinion to Chaney dated November 25, 2002)

Q Does Section 37-9-14, (3) and (7) allow the superintendent authority to approve the payment of invoices for budgeted expenditures through his or her signature

TECHNICALITIES -- 5A

Minor

As the New York Times story on the Russian "invasion" at Alcorn State points out, recruitment of white students into the Lorman campus has been a hard-to-crack task given considerable impetus under the administration of President Clinton Bristow.

Incidentally, he may not be around much longer because he's a finalist for the presidency at Towson State in Maryland.

If Mississippi lawmakers have been spending money like a drunken sailor the last few years, as GOP gubernatorial candidate Haley Barbour contends, that inebriated swabby certainly hasn't been tossing

moola to the state's universities and colleges.

In the last three years the percentage of the state budget allotted to higher education and the funding per student has dropped the last three years, even falling below spending levels when Republican Kirk Fordice was governor.

Deepening the higher education funding dilemma is that average salaries of full-time faculty, which had been brought close to that of the other Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) states in FY 1995 and FY 1996, have lost considerable ground in recent years.

In FY 2000, the state appropriated \$6,321 per

full-time student. But with budget cuts ordered in 2001 the per-student funding dropped to \$5,791, and again with budget cuts in 2002, it fell to \$5,367. It is down to \$5,337 in the current fiscal year.

Meanwhile, the SREB average per-student funding has moved \$1,156 higher than Mississippi's. How can politicians say, "our college students are our greatest assets?"

Mississippi IHL faculty salaries fell \$3,800 below the SREB average in FY 2000, \$6,500 in 2002 and this year are to be \$7,225 below the SREB average.

The portion of the state budget going to IHL has

Continued from Page 4A

dropped from 16.43 percent back in 1990 to 14.9 percent in 2002 and 13.81 this fiscal year, even with budget contingency funds thrown in.

A quote in the New York Times article from one of the Russians attending Alcorn State contained a message Mississippians need to take seriously about whether they are short-changing higher education students in this state.

Said Alex Alexandrov of his attendance at Alcorn: "It's worse than the education we had in Russia, but it's America."

Can we take consolation in saying: "but it's Mississippi, and we can't do better?" Think about it.

Technicalities

with the board approving his or her actions at its next board meeting or must the board approve the payments for budgeted expenditures prior to the invoices being paid?

A The school board must be allowed to reject or approve all claims before pay certificates are issued. Approval of the school district budget does not provide the school board the opportunity to make a determination of the legality on a specific claim that is presented for payment. Pay certificates may be issued by the superintendent without prior approval of the school board on the payment of specific claims in accordance with the exceptions that are set out in Section 37-9-14(7). (Attorney General's Opinion to Henderson dated December 6, 2002)

Q Does a school district have any authority to pay for materials needed to create or make repairs to school bus turnarounds located on private property?

A There is no authority for a school district to bear the cost of maintenance work on a school bus turnaround, except to the extent that such work is performed on the driveways or parking lots of district schools. (Attorney General's Opinion to Jacobs dated December 20, 2002)

Q May a school district donate school buses to another public entity?

A No. However, such transfers may be made to other governmental entities pursuant to the provisions of Section 31-713(m)(vi) without the need for advertising for competitive bids or placing the items for sale at public auction. The buses may be sold at a price which is agreed upon by both parties which may be for less than the market value of the buses. (Attorney General's Opinion to Stephens dated December 13, 2002)

COUNTIES

Q If a tax exempt charitable or benevolent organization purchases real property after January 1, the date on which the tax lien attaches, is the tax still due and may the county refund the portion of taxes for the part of the year after the date of purchase?

A Section 27-35-3 fixes the date on which the tax lien attaches stating that all taxable real property situated in the state acquired or held by any person before January 1 of each year ... shall be assessed and taxes thereon paid for the ensuing year. Therefore, the taxes assessed based on the tax lien date of January 1 remain due and payable. Further, there is no provision for taxes to be reimbursed pro rata for fractional parts of a tax year after the property is acquired by a charitable or benevolent organization. (Attorney General's Opinion to Hollmon dated December 6, 2002)

Q When a county has an interlocal agreement with a municipality for the collection of taxes, can the county sell for taxes municipal property that has a lien against it for cleaning pursuant to Section 21-19-11?

A Property to be sold pursuant to Section 21-19-11, for costs and expenses of cleaning property, may be sold by the county for the benefit of the city pursuant to an interlocal agreement but may not be

included in the unified tax sale. (Attorney General's Opinion to Beam dated December 6, 2002)

Q Can the board of supervisors close a municipal street?

A We find no authority which empowers a county to abandon a municipal street or to compel a municipality to close a dedicated street within the municipal corporate limits. (Attorney General's Opinion to Palmer dated December 20, 2002)

Q Must a member of the board of supervisors obtain prior approval of the board in order to be reimbursed for out of state travel?

A Yes. At a minimum the minutes must name the supervisor, where he is traveling and his mode of transportation; in addition the minutes should state dollar limitations and purpose of travel. (Attorney General's Opinion to Chamberlin dated December 20, 2002)

Q Must a book and page number as specified in Section 89-5-33 be used for electronically filed documents?

A The book and page number specified in Section 89-5-33 is intended to be a unique identifier so that the records are readily accessible to the general public. If the records are stored electronically and there is therefore no book and page, they may be assigned a properly indexed unique identifier which will make them readily accessible to the general public. (Attorney General's Opinion to McAdams dated January 10, 2003)

Q What is the deadline for chancery and circuit clerks to pay to the county any portion of 2002 fees due the county and to file an Annual Financial Report with the State Auditors Office and the Public Employees Retirement System?

A April 15, 2003. (§§9-143, 9-145)

MUNICIPALITIES

Q Must municipal board meetings be open to the public?

A Yes, except for executive sessions limited to the subjects listed in Section 25-1-7, such as personnel matters and litigation.

Q Does the "Open Records" law make all municipal records open to the public?

A No. Section 25-6 1 -11 makes clear that records made confidential by law are not made public by the open records laws. Some exceptions, such as personnel records, are listed under the cross references listed as footnotes to this law.

Q Must approved claims be paid in the order of their entry in the Section 21-39-7 claims docket?

A Yes. (§ 21-39-9)

Q May a municipality invest in the stock market?

A No. Section 21-33-323 limits investments to direct obligations of the federal government, State of Mississippi, and certain Mississippi local governing authorities; municipal, depository certificates of deposits and repurchase agreements; and certificates of deposit issued by state depositories in the municipality. Also, Section 183 of the Mississippi Constitution prohibits subscription to capital stock.

GENERAL

NOTE: The following question modifies previous questions in the 2002-11 and 2002-

9 issues of Technicalities.

Q Can an employee whose regular day off falls on a holiday receive extra compensation?

A A municipality may adopt leave policies which allow an extra eight (8) hours of leave to an employee whose regular day off falls on a holiday. (Attorney General's Opinion to Stockton dated December 13, 2002)

Q Should an employee's salary as reduced under a Cafeteria Plan also be reduced for FICA (social security) reporting?

A Yes. Wages reported under FICA should be reduced in an amount equal to any "pre-tax" salary benefits for income tax purposes. Generally, qualified benefits under a Cafeteria Plan are not subject to FICA (social security), I FUTA (unemployment tax), medical tax or income tax withholding. [IRS Code §§ 3121 (a)(5)(G) and 3306 (b)(5)(G)]

Q May legal publications be made in a newspaper that is not numbered consecutively?

A No. (§13-3-31)
Q Pursuant to Section 63-7-19, may volunteer firemen use white colored blinking, oscillating, or rotating lights

when responding to calls?

A Nothing in Section 63-7-19 authorizes the use of blinking, oscillating or rotating white lights for personal vehicles of volunteer firemen when responding to calls. (Attorney General's Opinion to Enlow dated January 3, 2003)

Q How many days may a public body pay employees who are called for military duty?

A Public employees who are called for military duty must be paid for up to fifteen days per calendar year if called for such service on days the employee would otherwise be scheduled to work. For periods of military leave in excess of fifteen days, public employees are entitled to leave of absence without pay and no loss of time, annual leave, or efficiency rating. Health insurance and other benefits are suspended during the time of unpaid leave and reinitiated upon return to work. If a group insurance policy also covers the employee's family, the employee may, at his/her own expense, pay the premium necessary to continue such family coverage. (§33-1-21 and Attorney General's Opinion to Creekmore dated April 28, 1993).

Continued from Page 4A

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Diamondhead resident qualifies as candidate for House District 95

Jessica Sibley Upshaw, a resident of Diamondhead, has qualified as a Republican candidate for House District 95, which includes Gulfport, Orange Grove, Harrison and Hancock counties in the August primary.

Upshaw obtained her undergraduate degree in accounting at the University of Mississippi in 1981 and is a 1984 graduate of the University of Mississippi School of Law.

She has been in private practice for two years in Gulfport, prior to opening her office she worked for Hopkins, Crowley, Bagwell & Upshaw, PLLC for 13 years where she was a partner for eight years. She is also a licensed real estate broker.

She said that "as a voice for the people, I will work to improve the image of our great state, further educa-

"As a voice for the people, I will work to improve the image of our great state, further educational and work opportunities and promote fiscal responsibility."

**Jessica S. Upshaw,
Republican candidate for House District 95**

tional and work opportunities, and promote fiscal responsibility."

Upshaw is involved in many community organizations, including Business Advisor Council which is part of the National Republican Congressional Committee, Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce, Leadership Gulf Coast, Rotary Club of Gulfport, Gulfport Yacht Club, Great Southern Club, Gulf Coast

Carnival Association, Hancock and Harrison County Republican Clubs, and Harrison County Republican Women. She attends First United Methodist Church, Gulfport and Diamondhead Community Church.

Upshaw is a member of numerous professional organizations including U.S. Supreme Court Historical Society and American Inns of Court.



JESSICA S. UPSHAW

She has received honors in her profession including, Marquis Who's Who in American Law, Marquis Who's Who in the World, International Who's Who of Professionals 2000, and Who's Who in America.

Peterson announces his candidacy for Hancock Co. sheriff

Ronald A. (Ronnie) Peterson of Waveland has announced his candidacy for Hancock County sheriff in the 2003 elections.

Peterson, a Democrat, is a security investigator at Casino Magic, Bay St. Louis.

Peterson is married to Bonnie Lee Peterson and is the father of Ronald A. Peterson, II and Wendy Lynne Myrick.

He is a native of Bay St. Louis and now resides in Waveland.

He is a graduate of Bay High and attended Pearl River Junior College and spent four years in the United States Marine Corps and is a Vietnam veteran.

Peterson served as Hancock County sheriff for 5 terms, 1980 to 2000.

In making his announcement Peterson



RONNIE PETERSON

said, "I am the most experienced and qualified candidate having served 20 years as your sheriff. I am also a proven leader, and will bring leadership back to the office. I want to be your sheriff again."

DuPont names Diamondhead woman Special Olympics Volunteer of Year



Shown here at an employee meeting where Matthews' volunteerism was praised and a check to Special Olympics was presented are, from left, former DeLisle plant manager Aldo Morell, Special Olympics Equestrian Director Pete Crain and Matthews.

Beth Matthews recognized as outstanding community volunteer

Elizabeth Matthews of Diamondhead recently was named Special Olympics Area III Volunteer of the Year.

Matthews has for several years served as a volunteer with the equestrian unit of Special Olympics. When the young people in the program get the opportunity to learn to ride and control horses, Matthews

"Beth" of Diamondhead recently was named Special Olympics Area III Volunteer of the Year. "I get more out of it than they do."

"I get more out of it than they do."
Beth Matthews said of being a volunteer with the equestrian unit of Special Olympics

for which Matthews volunteers received a \$1000.

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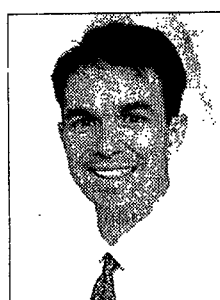
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Testin

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Move

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Navy

A Septem estimated the project include s ments f Florida. A prelimina for the pro the Com Daily and military c said.

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Gre at B

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Testing -- B-W schools

school, said Stasny.

Stasny suggested a program that would include members of athletic teams. Board attorney Ronnie Artigues said that if athletes were required to undergo drug testing than all students involved in extracurricular activities would have to be included. There was also talk of testing all students who drive a vehicle to school or employees who make a claim to worker's comp as a result of an accident.

Board secretary Dr. Sherry Ponder said she had recently read an article about drug testing in schools and was concerned about the complications that such a program would bring about. And other than pointing a finger at students who tested positive,

she said she didn't know what the testing would accomplish. A more proactive approach would accomplish more, she said.

Board president Richard Flowers said he thought that drugs were a problem in the schools, and a problem that was not going to go away, with drug testing or without it. Initial testing would cost from \$37 to \$40 per student, said Stasny, with re-testing for confirmation of positive results running \$125 per student. When the Hancock County District implemented a testing policy, all involved students were tested the first year and then a portion of the group was tested in following years, she said.

No definite decision was reached but board members declined to have a special

speaker on the subject at the next meeting, saying there was not enough interest. They did indicate that they may check into the possibility of testing in relation to workman's comp claims.

In other business:

- The board decided to hold the issue of raising tuition for out of district students in abeyance for 30 days to allow for notification of parents. A tuition of \$300 per student was set ten years ago, said Flowers and has never been raised. New tuition prices, which would be implemented in the next school year, would be \$500 per student.

- Ponder said she had concerns that the free summer lunch program is not reaching a wide enough population because the program is held only at Bay

Continued from Page 1A

Middle School. Ponder said she was concerned that children from Waveland and those living below Hwy. 90 may not be benefiting from the program. She asked the board to look into the issue.

- The board voted to send letters of congratulations to the girls on the Bay High Basketball team recognizing their participation in the state championship. The board is also checking into the possibility of recognition rings for the team members.

- The board approved: The purchase of a new \$55,000 bus to be used for extracurricular activities.

Hiring Eric Ross to complete designs and specs for a sound and lighting project at the high school auditorium preliminary specs estimate the project cost at around \$110,000.

Move -- MDOT rail plan

preliminary plans, with option one following closely along the I-10 corridor; option 2 following about four miles north of the I-10 corridor; and option 3 much further north, falling just south of DeSoto National Forest.

Preliminary drawings indicate that the new line would turn to the south through Hancock County to meet up with the current line, though planners could not say exactly where this north-south corridor might be located.

Planners cited expanded safety and economic growth as prime reasons for considering the move. The new rail would either be elevated over existing roads or

existing roads would pass over rail crossings, planners said.

When Supervisors asked about existing rail users, such as Alcan Cable, Port Bienville and others, planners said one option was compensation to these rail users and a move to where they could access rail service.

They emphasized that the proposed routes were used mainly for cost planning at this point in the project.

Cost estimates for the I-10 corridor route are, option one, \$2.7 billion, a more costly price-per-mile of track; option 2, 1.8 billion; and option 3, \$2.4 billion, a similar cost-per-mile of

track as option 2, but requiring more miles of track.

Funding for the project would come from joint state and federal funding, planners said. The target finish date for planning is two years, but a lot stands in the way. The project would have to satisfy environmental concerns across the state, as any new route would pass through many environmentally sensitive areas, affecting vegetation and wildlife.

But environmental concerns are just one obstacle. Right-of-way acquisition across the state would also have to be addressed. Construction estimates slate a nine-year completion date.

Continued from Page 1A

CSX itself would take no part in the proposed project, but planners would have to satisfy the company's needs to gain their approval for any new route, presenters said.

Public meetings have already been held in many other locations on the issue, and a new series of public meetings is expected to be held again in June. Planners could not say if any would be held in Hancock County, but said more detailed plans would be available at that time. A meeting was held Wednesday evening in Perkinston at the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College.

Navy -- local housing

Continued from Page 1A

A September 2004 date is estimated for the award of the project, which could also include similar developments from Texas to Florida. Advertisement for preliminary qualifications for the project has begun in the Commerce Business Daily and will be a standard military contract, planners said.

The units, individual houses - duplexes or other - would house families serving the Navy at Stennis Space Center and be built in a community style, said planners, hopefully with a park and other facilities. Units not used by the military would be available for rent to local residents.

The project would be a

public/private venture in which the Navy would provide some dollars or land for the project, but which would be built by a private developer.

Availability of wastewater treatment for the proposed project, which could be located in the Kiln area, is a key element in ensuring that the development comes to Hancock County. Butler and Kopeso both said Hancock is the preferred location.

In other Hancock Board of Supervisors business:

- Supervisors voted to request that a proposed SEALs training operation encompassing 5,200 acres along the Pearl River, be moved into Louisiana.

- Building Official Willie Gaveny will retire on April 30.

- Starting April 1, the Mississippi Department of Motor Vehicles will be open an extra day in Hancock County. The office, located at the Hancock County Civic Center, will now be open on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

- Circuit Clerk Pam Metzler asked supervisors to approve a request to be sent to the Justice Department asking for the closure of two voting precincts, Central School and Hancock North Central.

- Supervisors asked that the sheriff's department provide trustees to pick up trash along county roads.

Top Dog -- Bay P.D.

Continued from Page 1A

with a score of 97.5 out of 100. In the indoor narcotics detection competition, the team once again scored 97.5 out of 100 and finished in third place. Cox and Dar received a second place team award for teaming up with the Hancock County Sheriff's Department K-9 team of Lt. Jimmy Esposito and K-9 Dax.

Other phases of the certification included an obedience course, an agility

course and evidence recovery.

The Bay St. Louis team claimed first place in agility, suspect search and criminal apprehension and second place in obedience. Along with Esposito, officer Gene Dufrene from the Gulfport Police Department and Michael Entrakin from Region 8 Housing Authority, the team accumulated enough points to take first place in the team competition.

tion.

"It's a tremendous honor that our dog was chosen as 'Top Dog' and a special tribute to his handler who has spent numerous hours in training," said Bay St. Louis Police Chief Frank McNeil.

The K-9 team has earned invitations from the United States Police K-9 Association Region 26 to represent the state and city in both the U.S.P.C.A. Detector Dog Nationals in May in Minnesota and the Patrol Dog 1 Nationals in October in New Jersey. The 2004 Regional K-9 Certification Trials will be held in Bay St. Louis.

Green Project on display at Bay, Kiln Libraries

The Hancock County Green Community Project will display maps and photos of special places and recreational areas in Hancock County at the Bay St. Louis-Hancock County Library and the Kiln Public Library. The Bay St. Louis-Hancock County Library will host the exhibit March 17-31, and the Kiln Public Library April 8-10.

The Green Community Project is sponsored by the Hancock County Board of Supervisors, the Hancock County Chamber of Commerce and Coastal Impact Assistance Funds. Along with the displays

will be a community survey for the public to rank the five most important goals for the plan and suggest additional recreational spaces.

With the community's help," said Anderson, "we will be able to enhance and extend the public open spaces in Hancock County, creating a network of recreational areas and green spaces."

More information on the display and the project is available by contacting the Hancock County Chamber of Commerce Community Development Committee at 467-9048.

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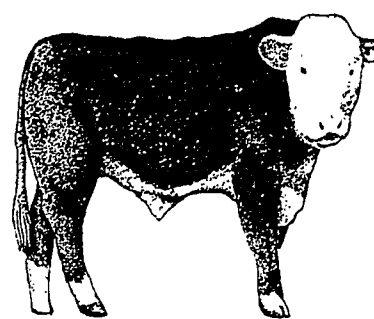
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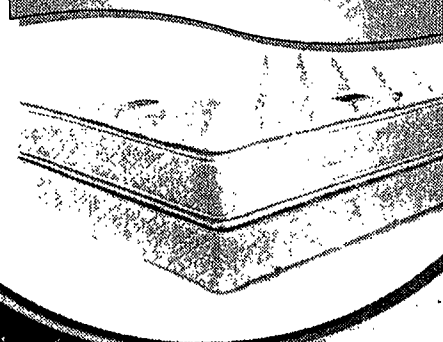
For anyone who has information that can lead to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for killing three cows at the Horse Shoe, which is located off Old Kiln Picayune Road, within the last three to four weeks. If you have any information, please call (228) 255-3082.

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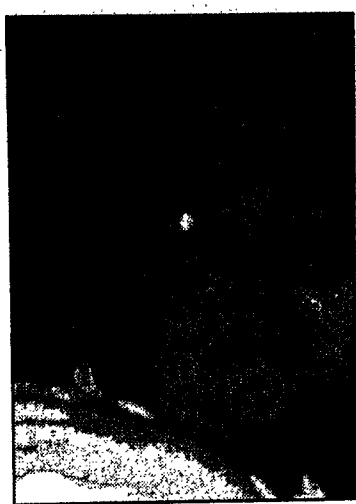


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Obituaries

ANN BILLIOT
PAUL PORTER, JR.

ANN BILLIOT
Ann "Maw Maw" Billiot, age 57, died Friday, March 14, 2003 in Kiln, Mississippi.

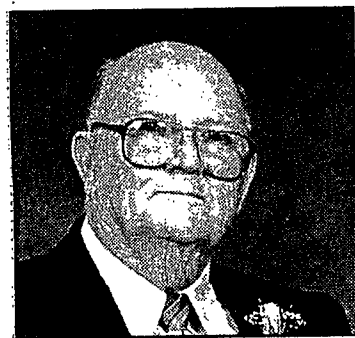
Mrs. Billiot was a native of Colorado and was a resident of Kiln for the past 24 years. She was a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Mildred Evans; and her father, Jim Dunn.

Survivors included her husband, Phillip Billiot, Kiln; two daughters, Lara Jo Wall, California, and Melynie Tapp, Kiln; one son, Rev. Jimmy Turnbough, Kiln; 12 grandchildren; and by many other family members and friends. She will be sadly missed.

Visitation was held on Monday, March 17, 2003 at Riemann Funeral Home, Bay St. Louis. The service was held Tuesday, March 18, 2003 in the funeral home chapel. Burial followed in Turtle Skin Cemetery in Hancock County.

Riemann Funeral Home, 229 Highway 90 East, Bay St. Louis was in charge of arrangements.



PAUL PORTER, JR.

Paul Edward Porter, Jr., 76, was called home to be with His Lord, Sunday, March 16, 2003.

Edward was born and raised in Bay St. Louis, Ms. He was the only child of Paul "Pete" Edward Porter, Sr. and mother, Lucille Osoinach Porter, both preceded him in death.

The family owned and operated Porter's Service Station and Pontiac Agency on Ulman Ave. in Bay St. Louis.

Survivors include his wife, Ann Weston Porter, three daughters and a son, Sue and Vance Rutan of Winston-Salem, N.C.; Sally and Mike Cassagne of Long Beach, Ms.; June and Woody LaFontaine of Gardendale, AL; and Ed and Michele Porter III of Brandon, Ms.

Edward and Ann were called by the Lord to work with mentally and physically handicapped children and adults. They served for 9 1/2 years at the Ala. Baptist Children's Home in Mobile, AL. In 1986 they stepped out on faith and established The Mustard Seed, Inc. for adults in Theodore, AL, where they served 16 years. They have lived with over 70 of other people's children.

There will be two memorial services.

Sunday, March 23, at 2:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church, Gardendale, AL. for friends and family there. And a service will be held at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Pass Christian, Ms. on Saturday, April 26 at 3 p.m. for friends and family on the coast.

The family request no flowers please. They would like all memorials sent to Ala. Baptist Children's Home & Family Ministries, P.O. Box 361767, Birmingham, AL. 35636-1767.

Area schools encouraged to become NASA Explorers to enhance Science, Math and Technology Instruction

THE SEA COAST ECHO

This summer, NASA is introducing an exciting educational opportunity for schools across the country — NASA Explorer Schools. Designed to meet the educational needs of students in grades 5-8, this national program will enable educators from five schools selected from the Stennis Space Center service area to develop an ongoing partnership with NASA to enhance instruction.

During NASA's three-year relationship with the schools, NASA personnel will work with educator teams to develop and implement a plan that enhances the schools math, science and technology curriculum with NASA data and materials.

Schools, teachers, administrators, students and their families will benefit from the Explorer Schools program.

School teams from across the nation, consisting of four or five people, will lead the effort in implementing the action plan. Teams will attend an all-expenses-paid one-week professional development workshop at one of NASA's 10 centers. Five teams from areas surrounding Stennis Space Center will be chosen to come to the space center in south Mississippi for training. Team members receive a \$500 stipend for participating in this summer workshop, and an additional \$500 stipend for implementing the team's action plan. Besides the one-week summer workshop, NASA personnel will conduct ongoing professional development workshops for Explorer School teachers throughout the three-year partnership, helping educators grow professionally and enhance classroom instruction.

One purpose of NASA Explorer Schools is to increase student interest in science, math and technology, and to educate them about careers in these fields.

Explorer School students will participate in NASA programs enriched in science, math, and technology experiences and have access to NASA research and resources. These students' families will also participate in the program through online learning activities.

Besides being identified as a NASA Explorer School and partnering with NASA, schools are eligible to receive a grant of up to \$10,000 to help implement their action plan.

The Explorer Schools program supports NASA's mission to inspire the next generation of explorers and will enrich learning experiences for students across

the country.

April 4, 2003, is the deadline for applications for NASA Explorer Schools. Applications and eligibility requirements are online at <http://explorerschools.nasa.gov>.

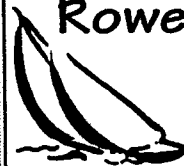
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Lowering the insurance ratings is top priority in Hancock County

THE SEA COAST ECHO

Brian Adam, the newly appointed Director of the Hancock County Emergency Management Agency was the featured speaker during the Monthly Dutch Lunch in the Kiln last week, sponsored by the Hancock County Chamber of Commerce. Adam is a career fire official with 19 years experience in the field. Formerly, he was the Assistant Fire Chief for the City of Bay St. Louis. In his current position with the county, he serves two roles as Director of Civil Defense and Fire Coordinator. "This is why the County has merged the two programs into one agency now known as the Hancock County

Emergency Management Agency," said Adam. Over the last few weeks, Adam said he has been busy meeting with local officials and members of the volunteer fire departments to set priorities for the year. "One thing is clear," he said, "we must work together with the communities throughout the county to do what we can to lower insurance rates." When a community has a 10 rating, the type of insurance coverage you can obtain is extremely limited, noted Lauly Peterson, Hancock

Chamber leader and owner of Statewide Insurance in Kiln. She also noted that when a community has lower ratings, there are more insurance options available at lower rates.

Adam said there is a list of things that can be done to accomplish this goal, including increasing manpower and obtaining quality equipment. "All of these things and more can influence the ratings, which can lead to either lower or higher insurance rates for the citizens of our county," he said.

Adam encouraged community leaders to provide leadership to support the volunteer fire departments to help increase awareness, raise funds and provide volunteer support. "We need to get more people involved," he said.

Hancock County has two forms of fire service and protection: career and volunteer. Bay St. Louis, Waveland and Diamondhead have career fire departments. The other parts of the county are divided into eight districts, served by volunteer fire departments. Oftentimes, these departments are a hub of activity for the community, serving as a meeting place for local groups

and events. Regardless of where you are located in the county, you should dial 911, for all medical and fire emergencies. For non-emergency business, you may reach all fire departments at the following numbers:

City of Bay St. Louis: 467-4736
Diamondhead: 255-1314
City of Waveland: 467-2042
Hancock County Emergency Management Agency: 467-9226
Clermont Harbor: 467-3345
East Hancock: 466-3932
Kiln: 586-5366
West Hancock: 533-7847
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Tackett offers workshop for BayArts 2003 program

As part of the BayArts 2003 program sponsored by the City of Bay Saint Louis, Victoria Tackett, Ph.D., will offer two workshops on "The Creative Process: Finding Authentic Self Expression".

In these expressive arts workshops, psychosynthesis techniques such as guided imagery, movement, sound, and journal writing, along with intuitive drawing and painting, will provide a springboard for the inner creative process. Using the art materials of their choice, art-makers at any level of experience will discover both the enjoyment and the satisfaction of creating finished artworks that are evocative, self-expressive, improvisational and personally meaningful.

Dr. Victoria Tackett, is a psychotherapist, visual artist and educator who studied studio arts at The Art Center College of Design in California, and has over 25 years experience teaching practical ways to access and utilize the personal creative process.

Finding Authentic Self Expression workshops will be offered March 22-23 and April 26-27, at The Lumberyard Art Center, 299 S. Second Street, Bay St. Louis. Details: (228) 467-6226.

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BUSINESS NEWS

Hancock Chamber's Regional Coffee Call to feature economic impact of Stennis Space Center

THE SEA COAST ECHO

Community leaders from a two state area will join together to host a Regional Coffee Call in Hancock County at Casino Magic Bay St. Louis on Wednesday, March 26 from 7:30 a.m.-9 p.m.

"This is an excellent opportunity for Hancock County to showcase our area to community leaders and the media in Mississippi and Louisiana," said John P. Baxter, Vice President of Hancock Bank and President of the Hancock Chamber.

The event is being hosted by Partners for Stennis and co-sponsored by the Hancock County Chamber of Commerce, Coast Chamber, Partners for Pearl River County, the Slidell Chamber and the Jackson County Chamber.

It will feature the new director of Stennis Space Center (SSC) Bill Parsons and Admiral Thomas Q. Donaldson, Commander, Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command. During the Coffee Call, findings will be released on the economic impact of SSC on the regional economy and the vision for the future.

The cost is \$10 per person. Advance reservations should be made by calling the Hancock Chamber at 228-467-9048.

In the Spotlight

Relay for Life in the Fight Against Cancer

Friday, May 2, 2003 at the Hancock Medical Center Walking Track

Cancer touches everyone. In 2002, nearly 14,400 cancer cases are expected to be diagnosed in Mississippi. In Hancock County, it is hitting us too through prostate cancer, lung cancer, breast cancer and colon cancer. You can make a difference in the fight against cancer by participating in the Annual Relay for Life in Hancock County.

This year, the event is being chaired by Chamber Board Member, David Mayley, co-owner of Pest Control Specialists. He wants to exceed the goals by recruiting 60 teams to participate. Mayley said response to the event is great, and his goal is to find a way for everyone to participate.

"As I talk to business owners and individuals in the community, I am finding

that there are many who want to participate but just don't have the manpower to sponsor a team on their own," he said. Mayley suggests forming "Chamber Members Teams."

A team normally consists of 10 members and each member on average raises \$100. If you would like to sponsor a team or be part of a "Chamber Members Team," contact Janie Pierson at 896-7024 or David Mayley at 467-4336.

The American Cancer Society, a member of the Hancock Chamber, is the nationwide, community-based, voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives and diminishing suffering from cancer, through research, education, advocacy and service.

To find out more: www.cancer.org.

Hancock County - Upcoming Events

Thursday, March 20
5pm-7pm
Hancock Chamber
Business After Hours - The Lumberyard Art Center

299 S. Second Street • Bay St. Louis

Hosted by: Doug & Vicki Niolet

Co-Sponsored by: ATK Thiokol Propulsion

Friday, March 21
5pm
Our Lady Academy Fashion Show

Spring Begins

Wednesday, March 26
7:30am-9am
Regional Coffee Call featuring Stennis Space Center - hosted by Partners for Stennis

Casino Magic Bay St. Louis
4pm
Arts Council of Hancock County Meeting

Bay St. Louis Library

Thursday, March 27
8am
Diamondhead Business & Professional Association (DBPA)
5pm
DBPA Business After Hours at Whitney Bank

Sunday, March 30

3pm-8:30pm
Celebrity Chefs Fest to benefit OLA & Bay Catholic

All meetings and events are subject to change. Please contact the Chamber Office to confirm date, time and place.

Coming up in April

Salute to Business & Industry Awards Gala
Friday, April 25th
Casino Magic Bay St. Louis

Hosted in Partnership by:
Hancock County Chamber of Commerce
Hancock County Port & Harbor Commission
Hancock County Tourism Development Bureau

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New center to study and promote tourism, economic and development research

THE SEA COAST ECHO

With the creation of the Center for Tourism and Economic Development Research (CENTED), the University of Southern Mississippi has positioned itself to take the lead in research, service and education for one of the world's fastest-growing industries.

"The importance of tourism in the state of Mississippi cannot be overstated," said center Director Tony Henthorne, a professor of marketing and director of the Institute for Service Excellence at Southern Miss. "Currently, tourism is the second-largest service sector employer in the state, and the number of Mississippi citizens employed in the industry is sure to increase."

Located on the Gulf Coast, the heart of the gaming industry in Mississippi, CENTED will strive to improve the tourism product, increase the benefits of the tourism industry and foster an understanding of the role tourism plays in economic development.

Both here in the United States and around the world, the travel and tourism industry is an engine for economic development.

Therefore, while reporting to the provost of the USM Gulf Park campus, CENTED will extend its reach regionally, nationally and globally, university officials said.

"CENTED positions Southern Miss to lead the way in examining the relationship between the entire tourism industry and long-term economic development -- not just along the coast of Mississippi, but worldwide," Gulf Coast Provost Tim Hudson said.

In 2000 alone, the travel and tourism industry employed more than 18 million people in the United States at an annual payroll of \$259 billion, making it the second-largest employer in the nation. Worldwide, tourism is estimated to employ more than 200 million people, both directly

and indirectly, with 5.5 million new jobs anticipated by 2010.

During the last 10 years, world tourism has increased more than 65 percent and tourism in the Caribbean region has grown 100 percent during the same period. CENTED will act as a central repository and resource base for data relating to the tourism industry, Henthorne said.

In Mississippi, the tourism industry has grown even more dramatically, in large part because of gaming. Before 1992, when casinos first appeared in Biloxi, that city attracted approximately one million visitors a year. Eight years after the advent of gaming, Biloxi tourism served more than 22 million visitors. Currently, gaming revenues comprise approximately 44 percent of all state tourism and recreation income.

But until now, the gaming industry has "been lacking a serious research center," said Beverly Martin, executive director of the Gulf Coast Gaming Association.

"USM has done research in the past -- a study for the state Legislature on the impact of gaming -- so apparently they are well versed and articulate on the issues," she said. "We look forward to utilizing this local research center with future projects."

All told, Mississippi tourism generated \$6.1 billion in 2000, which exceeded the \$5.6 billion from the previous fiscal year. Employing almost 100,000 Mississippians, the tourism industry is the state's second-largest service sector employer.

"CENTED was created, in part," Henthorne said, "to help get out the word regarding this vital sector. As Mississippi's tourism image and reach continues to grow and expand beyond our borders, so will CENTED's."

Although CENTED is a nonacademic program, it will work closely with the university's Master's of

Economic Development degree program to develop a specialized tourism track and involve students in research projects. Within three years, CENTED aims to enlist at least 25 students in this program.

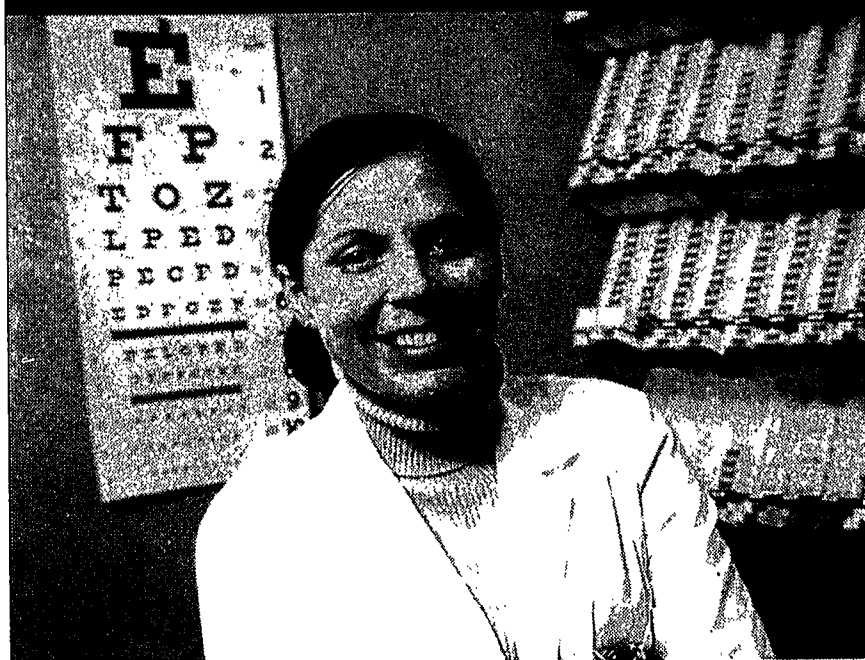
Hudson said that since he assumed the role of Gulf Coast provost last July, he has been working hard to find ways in which Southern Miss can be more directly involved in meeting the needs of the community and contributing to economic development.

"CENTED will be a bridge to one of our major

industries while providing our students an opportunity to engage in meaningful research. The plan is for CENTED to become self-supporting through competitive research contracts and training programs within the next three to five years," Hudson said.

Robert Rohrlack Jr., executive director of the Mississippi Development Authority and a USM alumnus, said Mississippi's network of colleges and universities is instrumental in helping the MDA pursue fresh economic development opportunities for the state.

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Navy wants riverine, jungle live-fire training range at Stennis

THE SEA COAST ECHO

The Department of the Navy is evaluating the proposal of purchasing land located adjacent to National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) John C. Stennis Space Center (SCC) for a special operations riverine and jungle training range.

The Navy filed a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) with the Federal Register Mar. 3. The EIS will evaluate the potential impacts of the Navy's plan to purchase approximately 5,200 acres of privately owned property located within SCC's northwest acoustic buffer zone and use it as a riverine and jungle live-fire training range.

The proposed live-fire training range, tentatively named the Western Maneuver Area (WMA), would be managed and operated by Special Boat Team 22. SBT-22, also located at SSC, is the only Department of Defense command responsible for conducting special operations in riverine environments.

The criteria for selecting the proposed area are based upon real-world missions that SEALs (Sea, Air, Land), SWCC (Special Warfare Combatant-craft Crewman) and other special operations forces will be called upon to execute. The criteria include geomorphology, location, range size, possible development encroachment, and the accomplishment of training to meet real-world riverine special operations.

Users of this proposed live-fire range would shoot only short-range training ammunition (SRTA) or blanks up to .50 caliber. SRTA is a plastic bullet with a limited 700-meter flight profile. A safety perimeter would be established around training locations when SRTA ammunition is used.

SBT-22 has trained in and around the vicinity of the Pearl and Mikes Rivers, located within the WMA, for nearly 30 years. SBT-22's unique missions require realistic training conditions, which includes similar terrain and waterways and live-fire exercises prior to deployment to hostile areas.

"This area contains some of the finest riverine training areas in the world and complements the world-class facilities already established at SSC," said Cmdr. (SEAL) Patrick Butler, commanding officer of SBT-22. "The proposed range would eliminate extensive travel time and sig-

nificantly enhance the realism and effectiveness of our training."

To date, live-fire training requirements have been met by scheduling training cycles at Fort Knox, Ky., on a river that runs through an artillery impact area. There are numerous drawbacks to this location that could be remedied by a dedicated SBT-22 live-fire training range located in SCC northwest acoustic buffer zone.

SBT-22 units will still have to travel to Fort Knox to conduct live-fire lead ammunition training missions during the final stage of their training. The Fort Knox range does meet many of the Navy's requirements, but it comes at a demonstrated higher cost.

"Using the Fort Knox facility is more expensive in terms of time and money, and we have less access since we are not primary users. Creating a live-fire range at SSC allows us greater access, flexibility, and realistic training, and also reduces the deployment strain on our people since they can train closer to home," said SBT-22 Command Master Chief, Master Chief Engineman (SEAL) Kenneth Kopcsa. Kopcsa has been at SBT-22 for more than three years.

The Navy's crawl, walk, run training philosophy conditions personnel to combat by using blank-fire, SRTA, and live (lead) rounds in stages. The WMA is proposed for both the blank and SRTA ammunition which will accomplish two-thirds of the training needed to teach personnel how to respond appropriately to adverse, real world situations. Ft. Knox will continue to be used for the 'run' or final combat preparation where lead ammunition is used.

"This proposed range would provide live-fire training in a realistic environment in which SBT-22 will be the priority customer," said Butler. "The proposed live-fire training range is the minimum land required to ensure public safety during live-fire training exercises and required training guidelines."

"Typical training includes riverine patrol and interdiction, insertion and extraction of SEALs in riverine environments, craft concealment and evasion tactics, and surveillance of enemy-held rivers and waterways," said Kopcsa. "Live-fire training is an invaluable part of our training that ultimately saves lives."

This EIS will evaluate the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative effects



A U.S. Navy SEAL team from Special Boat Team-22 conducts training exercises on the East Pearl River in the Stennis Space Center Buffer Zone on Monday. The team is trying to expand its operations in the zone to include riverine and jungle live-fire training.

this action might pose on the physical, biological, and socio-economic environments. These areas include existing land use and ownership, threatened and endangered species, water resources, noise and air quality; non-military land uses and access, cultural resources, transportation and waterway navigation, water and land contaminants.

"During the EIS process, federal, state and local agencies and interested persons are encouraged to provide any concerns and feedback, and even other alternatives to the proposed range," said Bob Esenwein, Vice President of Turner, Collie and Braden Inc. (TCB) said. TCB has been hired by the Navy to help with the EIS process.

The public will have a second opportunity to learn about the proposed project, ask questions and provide feedback at a public scoping meeting scheduled today from 4-7 p.m. at Slidell City Auditorium, in Slidell, La.

Interested persons who cannot attend either public meeting can contact the Navy by phone or in writing. Written comments must be postmarked by April 21, 2003, and should be mailed to: Special Warfare Training Range EIS, c/o Commanding Officer, Southern Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, P.O. Box 190010, North Charleston, South Carolina 29419-90 10, Attn: Code ES 12/RD (Richard A. Davis), telephone (843) 820-5589, facsimile (843) 820-7472, e-

m a i l : DavisRA@efdsouth.navy.mil

In order to address all relevant issues from interested persons in the draft EIS adequately, scoping comments must be received or postmarked by April 21, 2003.

Once the draft EIS is developed and distributed, the public will have another opportunity to submit comments and concerns, and to meet with Navy officials during a public hearing to be scheduled in August or September. After the public hearing, a final EIS will be submitted and the Navy will make a decision to take action on the proposed range, seek other alternatives, or do nothing.

"We are currently looking at how the proposed range

will affect the recreational use and economic impact to those who own the land," said Esenwein. Currently, the land located in the WMA is privately owned and primarily used for recreation hunting and fishing. Some landowners in the northern part of the proposed training range use the land for mining.

"Keeping public safety and the safety of SBT-22 personnel in mind, we will evaluate the possibilities of public and private use when live-fire training missions aren't being conducted," said Butler. "We want this to be a win-win for everyone. That's why the public's input is important to the process. We intend to do our best to be good stewards of both the environment and the taxpayers' dollars."

OLA/ Bay Catholic present Chefs Fest

The Fifth Annual Celebrity Chefs Fest will be held on Sunday, March 30 from 3pm-8:30pm in the new Gymnasium Building on the Campus of Our Lady Academy and Bay Catholic Elementary located on Union Street in Bay St. Louis. The event will benefit the building fund of Our Lady Academy (OLA) and Bay Catholic Elementary (BCE) School.

Top chefs from throughout the West Coast of Mississippi will participate in the culinary competition: Annie's, Bay City Grill, Casino Magic Bay St. Louis, Court Street Station, Chappy's Seafood Restaurant, Drew's, Favre's, One The Bayou, Jack's Restaurant & Lounge, Jackie O's, Long Beach Lookout, Kahun Kitchen, Rickey's Bar & Grill, Southern Delights & Catering, Steve's Marina, The Sycamore House, and 27th Ave. Bistro. The distinguished panel of judges include: Mayor Robert

Bass, Mayor Eddie Favre, Mayor Tommy Longo and well-known individuals from the media. Local residents and visitors from Alabama and Louisiana are expected to support the event and enjoy an evening of delightful entertainment, featuring: The Jeb Stuart Trio, Bay Catholic Boys, Choir, and The BCE Choir. The Silent and Live Auctions feature incredible items and services with over 200 items. There will be something for everyone ranging in value from \$15 to priceless. The priceless items include those made by the students and teachers which include everything from hand made quilts to pottery. During 2002, more than \$30,000 was raised to support the building fund for OLA and BCE. Tickets are \$25 per person, and can be purchased at the door or in advance by calling Debbie Vernon Scott at 228-467-7048, ext. 16. Ticket packages are also available starting at \$75.

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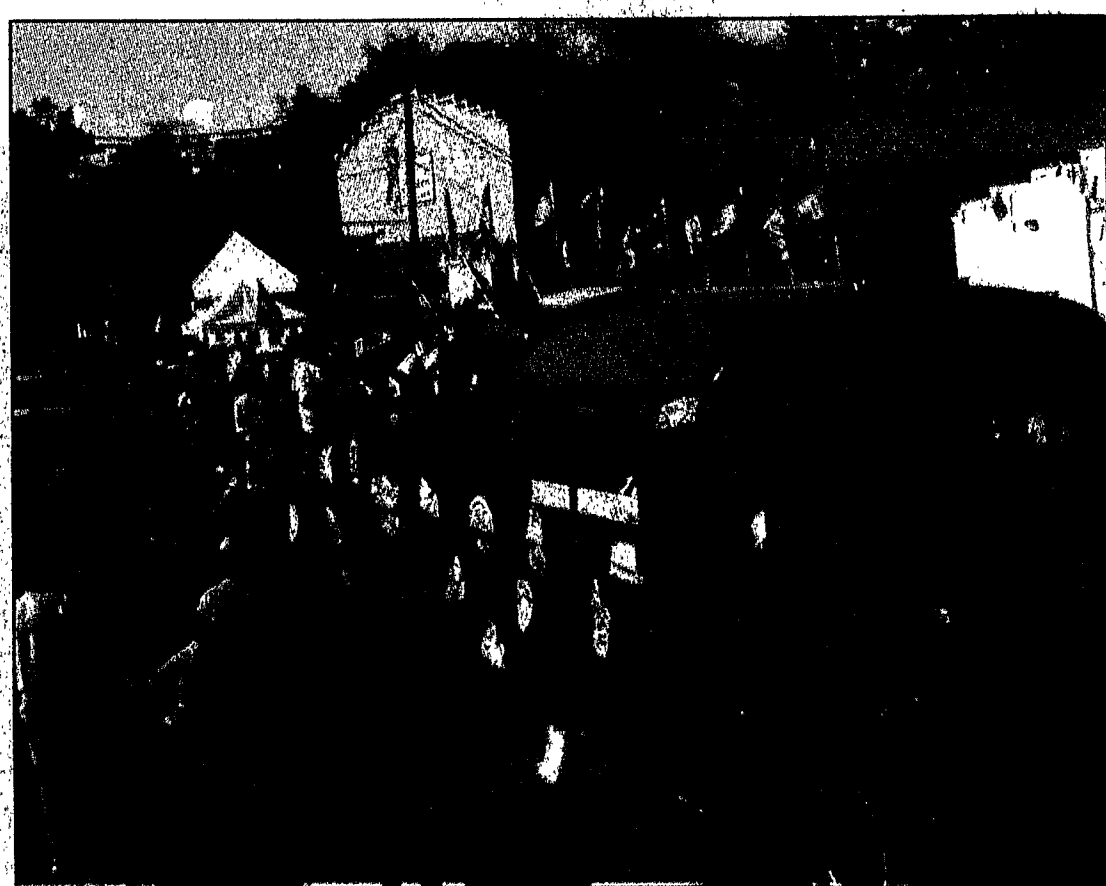
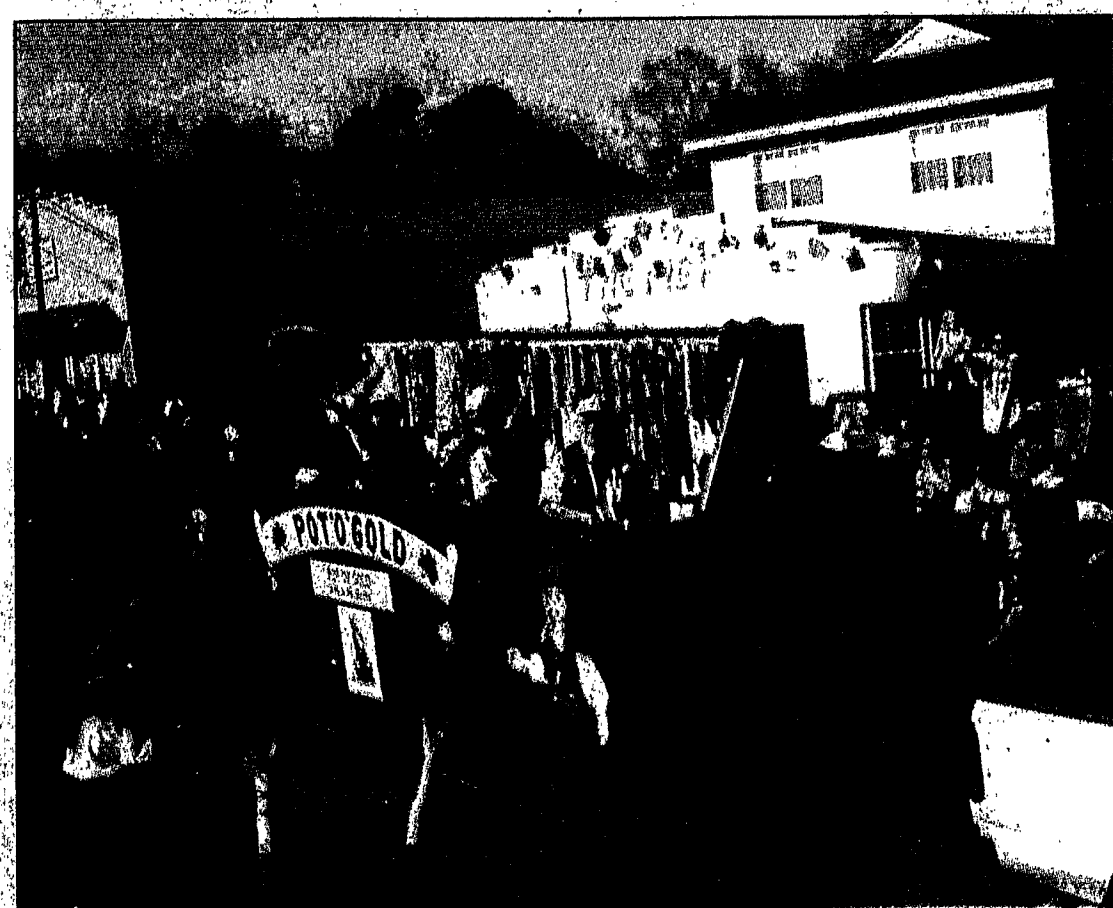
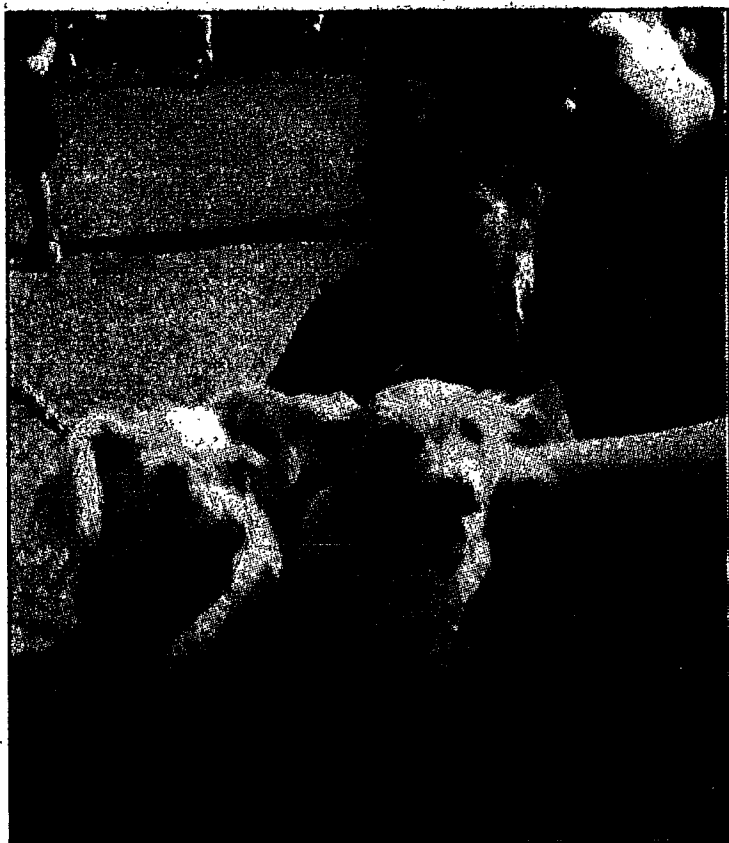
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COMMUNITY

pg 1B

Lean & Green

Scenes from the Waveland Civic Association's St. Patrick's Parade Saturday, featuring Jerry West as Grand Marshal and Heather Burge as Colleen
Echo staff photos by Bennie Shallbetter



SPORTS

PRCC Lady Cats whipped in first round of championship

THE SEA COAST ECHO
The Pearl River Community College's dreams of a first-ever women's national championship vanished Tuesday, as the Garden State Lady Bronchubsters handed the Lady Wildcats a 91-76 "old fashioned whipping" in first-round action of the NJCAA National Championship Tournament here in the Bicentennial Center.

The Region XXIII champion Lady Wildcats, now 23-8 overall, dropped into the losers bracket and will play the loser of Wednesday's Wabash Valley (Ill.)-North Dakota contest at 2 p.m. Thursday. Garden City, 30-5, now heads into the winner's bracket takes on the Wabash-North Dakota winner at 4 p.m. Wednesday.

"We just took a good, old-fashioned, behind-the-shed whipping out there tonight,"



The Lady Cats fell 91-76 against the Lady Bronchubsters in the first round of the national championships.

said PRCC head coach Ed Walley. "They beat us in all the phases of the game. If Garden City can continue to put up performances like this one the rest of the way through this tournament, they'll be beating a lot of folks."

The Lady Wildcats led for most of the first half, despite the fact that leading scorer Audosha Kelly man-

aged only six points before the intermission.

"My shots just weren't falling," Kelley said. "It wasn't so much Garden City, but I couldn't seem to make on fall in so I tried to contribute in other ways defensively and passing the ball around."

Kelley, a two-year All-State, All-Region guard from Savannah, Ga., score

four points in the opening four minutes, but hit a dry spell and didn't score again until she sank a pair of foul shots 2:16 before the intermission.

"We were our own worst enemy," Walley continued. "We turned it over left and right and missed easy shot after easy shot. It was just one of those days and we got whipped by a very good basketball team."

Kim Winfrey's three-point play with 11:40 left in the first half to put PRCC up 11-9, but over the next eight minutes the scored was tied three times and the lead exchanged hands seven times before Jasmine Irving sank a pair of foul shots with 3:30 left before the intermission to put the Lady Broncs up for good at 27-26 and kick off a 12-4 run to go up 37-30 at the half.

Garden City opened the

second half like gang busters, building its lead to 46-31 in the opening four minutes. At the midway point of the second half, they were up by 20. Pearl River managed to pull to within 13 points twice during the remaining time the last with 7:20 left when Monque Dale's bucket capped a 13-6 run. But it was all downhill from there. Irving's last bucket of the game gave Garden City its largest lead of the night 87-62 with 3:30 left.

"We did more to help beat ourselves than anything Garden City did," said Winfrey, a freshman from Oak Grove. "We just didn't take care of business like Coach Walley has taught us to do. They really aren't any better of a team than we are. We didn't do anything to help ourselves."

Irving finished the night with 27 points and hauled

in 16 rebounds both game-high totals while Kelley scored a team-high 23, including 17 in the second half. Winfrey scored 11 and hauled in a team-high 14 rebounds, while Dale added eight, Kristie McKinley seven, Liz Palmer six, Kira Tillman and LaTonya Henry, five each; and Jancsi Newsome and Samantha Flennoy, four each.

Besides Irving, Laura Banda and Chareka Terry scored 14 each for the Lady Broncs, while Krystle Jim and Karleigh Wall added 12 each. Angie Faurot scored 10 and Candace Salas had two.

From the foul line, PRCC was 16 of 25 (61.5 percent), while GCCC was 28 of 34 (82.4 percent).

Pearl River sank 29 of 61 (47.5 percent) of its field goal attempts, while Garden City hit 28 of 68 (41.2 percent).

Spotlight On Dining 2003

Southern Delights

Southern Delights, owned and operated by Neil Favre, is truly a treat for your taste buds. Favre opened the restaurant only 2 years ago and already has a loyal following and an excellent reputation for providing really delicious food at reasonable prices.

Every dish is freshly prepared to order and the portions are more than generous. Take for example the fried green tomatoes with cucumber sauce or the fried eggplant with crab fingers and shrimp with hollandaise for only \$6.95. Be sure to try the spinach-artichoke dip served hot with chips for only \$4.99. Seafood gumbo, some of the best I've ever had, is available daily as well as a soup of the day.

If you are trying to eat light, order one of Southern Delights' fantastic salads. Boiled shrimp salad, grilled or fried shrimp salad, or the grilled, fried or blackened chicken salad are all excellent choices.

Southern Delights also grills steaks! Choose a 8 oz or 12 oz ribeye prepared perfection served with a loaded potato and salad for a reasonable \$12.49 for 8 oz and only \$15.95 for the 12 oz. Look for steak specials in the weekly that appears in Thursday's Sea Coast Echo.

Southern Delights has some of the most delicious specialty dishes such as the snapper, the grilled tuna or the stuffed crab platter. A very popular dish is Favre's own seafood medley: perfectly prepared marinara laced with shrimp, crawfish and crab served over pasta. The fried seafood plates are generous, especially the Seafood Platter. It consists of catfish, shrimp, oysters and frog legs, delicately fried to a golden brown, delicious! Of course Southern Delights serves all of your favorite traditional po-boys and sandwiches, and some not so traditional like the portabella mushroom sandwich. (You just have to try it, it's really good!) Try the grilled chicken sandwich with onions, mushrooms and swiss served on a Kaiser roll with french fries. Favre

selects a lunch and a dinner special which changes daily except on Mondays, that's red beans and rice day, of course. And what better to top off a great meal than a delicious homemade dessert! The bread pudding with rum walnut sauce is fantastic as is the strawberry pecan cake, hummingbird cake or the banana pudding.

Lunch is served Monday through Saturday and dinner is served Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

Make plans to bring the family to Southern Delights at 299B Hwy 90, corner of Dunbar and Hwy 90 in Bay St. Louis. You'll be glad you did!

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Neil Favre
Southern Delights, Owner

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SPORTS

Pass Boys and Girls Club golf tournament set for April 10-11

THE SEA COAST ECHO

Golfers throughout the Gulf Coast are preparing for the 4th Annual Boys and Girls Club Golf Tournament at The Oaks Golf Club in Pass Christian, April 10-11. The tournament is hosted by the Pass Christian Unit of the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast and benefits the Pass Christian Unit.

This major fundraiser for the Pass Christian Unit includes a 9-Hole Individual Tournament on Thursday, April 10 and an 18-Hole Scramble on Friday, April 11. Over 100 players participated in the last year's tournament, winning a variety of prizes donated by industries and businesses throughout the coastal area. More importantly, the tournament raised over \$17,000 to help the Boys and Girls Club program in Pass Christian.

"This is the major fund-

raising event for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Pass Christian," said Duane Wilson, tournament chairman. "Those who have played in our tournament have commented about the fun, food and prizes we offer.

However, we've never lost sight of our goal and that's to continue to provide great services to young people through the Pass Christian Unit of Boys and Girls Clubs. "The Pass Christian Unit opened in June 2000 and has served over 563 registered members and an additional 1,000-plus youth through outreach in the areas of character and leadership development, health and life skills, education and career development, the arts, sports, fitness and recreation.

"Entry fees for the tournament vary," said Wilson, "because not everyone who wants to be a part of the

tournament is available both days of the tournament. We recognize that by offering different ways to participate in the tournament, more people who want to be a part of the tournament can do so."

Fees for both days of the tournament per player are \$125. For the 18-Hole Scramble on April 11, cost is \$100 per player. The cost per player for the 9-Hole Tournament only on April 10 is \$40 per player. For those who want only to participate on a social basis, a ticket is available that provides dinner Thursday and Lunch Friday of the tournament. Cost of the social ticket is \$20. All players in the full day event on Friday, in addition to being eligible for prizes, will also receive a tournament golf shirt.

The DeLisle Cooking Club will be preparing the meals for the tournament

again this year. The cooking club, made up of DuPont DeLisle employees, is a popular preparer of barbecue and "all the trimmings." Said Wilson, who is project group manager at DuPont DeLisle, "The cooking club takes this tournament very, very seriously and really go the extra mile to provide great meals for all the participants."

Tournament sponsorships still are available and range from a Bronze sponsorship at \$200 to Titanium Sponsor at \$2,500. DuPont DeLisle and Mississippi Power are the tournament's two major sponsors currently, notes Wilson who says that sponsorship "provides the opportunity to give back to the community in a very real way."

For further information, contact Wilson at 228-255-2180 or Lester Mitchell at 374-2330.

Pirates fall to Bulldogs in baseball

BY JOSEPH W. GEX II
Staff Writer

The Pass Christian Pirates' ace pitcher, Dustin Allen, was on the mound for the team on Tuesday, March 18, but it wasn't enough to stop the Vancleave Bulldogs from biting the Pirates 12-7 in Division 8 Class 4A action.

Allen tallied three K's in the first inning for Pass Christian and had 11 for the game; however, the Bulldogs' bats came alive in

the second inning and scored six runs to take the early lead.

After the second inning rush, the Bulldogs were quite until late in the game. In the second inning, Vancleave got six runs on six hits highlighted by a 2-run triple by Casey Summerlin.

The Pirates scored three runs in the bottom of the second with some timely hits by Matt Scarborough, Jacob Welch, and others.

Both teams were quiet until the sixth inning when Pass Christian tied the game at 7-7.

Dustin Allen had an RBI double and Lane Jenkins cranked a shot to the wall that scored two runs for the Pirates.

The Pirates (6-7) were poised for a comeback in the last inning until fate took a weird turn. A throwing error allowed a Bulldog player to reach first base with one out. That started a

chain reaction that led to five consecutive hits that scored runs for the Bulldogs to make the final tally of 12-7.

The Pirates were unable to muster any offense in the last frame of the game.

Over the weekend, the Pirates defeated 5A contender Long Beach 4-3. Lane Jenkins and Jacob Welch each tallied two hits in the contest as Welch earned the victory on the mound.

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St. Stanislaus players named to All-State 4A Soccer Team

THE SEA COAST ECHO

Seven St. Stanislaus athletes were selected to the 4-A Boys All State Soccer Team by the Mississippi Association of Coaches, according to Brother Ronald Hingle, SC, Principal.

First team players are senior Peter Doty, son of Dr. and Mrs. R. Kimble Doty, Jr., of Pass Christian, Mississippi; junior Michael Kivlan, son of Mrs. Angie Kivlan and Mr. Andy Kivlan, both of Bay St. Louis, Mississippi; junior

Beau Brodtmann, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwood Brodtmann of Waveland, Mississippi; and senior Todd Farrar, son of Mr. and Mrs. Don Farrar of Diamondhead, Mississippi.

Second team players are sophomore Elias Alam Gonzales, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jose Elias Alam of Merida, Mexico; sophomore Patrick Donohoe, son of Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Donohoe of Waveland, Mississippi; and senior Jeremy Boelte, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald

Boelte of Pearlinton, Mississippi.

Peter Doty was also selected as the 4-A Boys Soccer Player of the Year.

Coach Andy Kivlan was selected as the 4-A Boys Soccer Coach of the Year.

Saint Stanislaus College is a Catholic residency and day school for young men in grades 6-12. The school fosters character formation and integrates faith development within a curriculum which is primarily college preparatory.

PRCC to host disc golf tourney

THE SEA COAST ECHO

POPLARVILLE-The Pearl River Community College Wellness Center is proud to present the First Annual Windy Hills Disc Golf Tournament on Saturday, March 29, from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. at the PRCC Wildcat Trace Disc Golf Course.

Sign up for the tournament is from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.

The tournament will include two rounds of 18 holes. The cost is \$40 for Open Pro; \$35 for Pro Master; \$30 for Grand Masters, Amateur Masters,

Pro Women, and Advanced; \$25 for Amateur Men and Women; and \$17 for Junior and Novice players. This tournament is open to professionals and novice players. The tournament is a 2003 Southern National Qualifier.

All players will play white tees for the first round.

In round two, gold tees will be open and played by pro masters and advanced men; white tees will be played by amateur men and women, pro women, and grand master; maroon tees will be played by junior and

novice players. All junior and novice players will receive their choice of a T-shirt or a cap.

Proceeds from the tournament will go towards the building fund for the new PRCC chapel.

For more information contact PRCC Wellness Center Assistant Jonas Lefort at 601-403-1340 or PRCC instructor Shane Seal at 601-403-1114. For directions to the tournament, check out the Wildcat Trace Disc Golf Course web site at www.wildcattrace.webhop.net.

Waveland Little League final registration and tryouts Friday

Waveland Little League will be having final registration and tryouts on Friday, March 21, from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. and Saturday, March 22, 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

There will be a coach, assistant coach,

and umpires meeting on Friday, March 21 at 6:30 p.m. Anyone interested in coaching, assisting coaching or umpiring must attend this meeting. For more information, call Leo at 469-0987.

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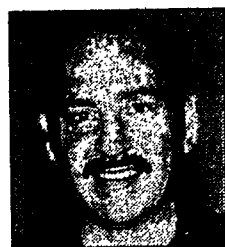
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HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

Homestead exemption applications will be taken from January 2, 2003 through April 1, 2003. These applications must be filed in the Bay St. Louis office of the Hancock County Tax Assessor between the hours of 8:00am and 5:00pm.

You must be living in your home on or before January 1, 2003 to qualify for homestead exemption. The property must be your primary residence in order to qualify.

The following information is needed to file your application.

- Warranty deed
- Cost of property
- Down payment amount
- License plate numbers for vehicles registered in Hancock County. (All vehicles owned must be registered in Hancock county)
- If you are over 65 proof of age
- If you are receiving 100% disability benefits proof of your disability.
- Is any part of the property rented?

You must re-file your homestead exemption application if

- You became 65 on or before January 1, 2003.
- You became 100% disabled on or before January 1, 2003.
- You acquired a new residence.
- You acquired additional property that adjoins your homestead.
- Your marital status changed (divorced, windowed, separated etc.)

If you have any questions please call 228-467-4425 or 888-409-6239

Jimmie Ladner Jr.
Tax Assessor / Collector
Hancock County

SSC's Allee chosen as STAR Student

THE SEA COAST ECHO
Chandler "Chad" Allee has been selected by the Mississippi Economic Council (MEC) to represent St. Stanislaus College in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi as its STAR Student for 2003.

The Student-Teacher Achievement Recognition (STAR) program recognizes achievement among Mississippi's top high school students through emphasis upon scholastic excellence and encouragement of greater scholastic effort.

Chad's STAR Teacher selection is Religion instructor Matt McKiernan. Both Chad and Mr. McKiernan have been invited to attend the MEC's Education Celebration 2003 on the campus of Mississippi College in Clinton, Mississippi on April 25th.

In addition to being named a STAR Student, Chad is a Commended National Merit Scholar and played Basketball for the St. Stanislaus team that appeared in the Final Four of the 2002-2003 State

Tournament.

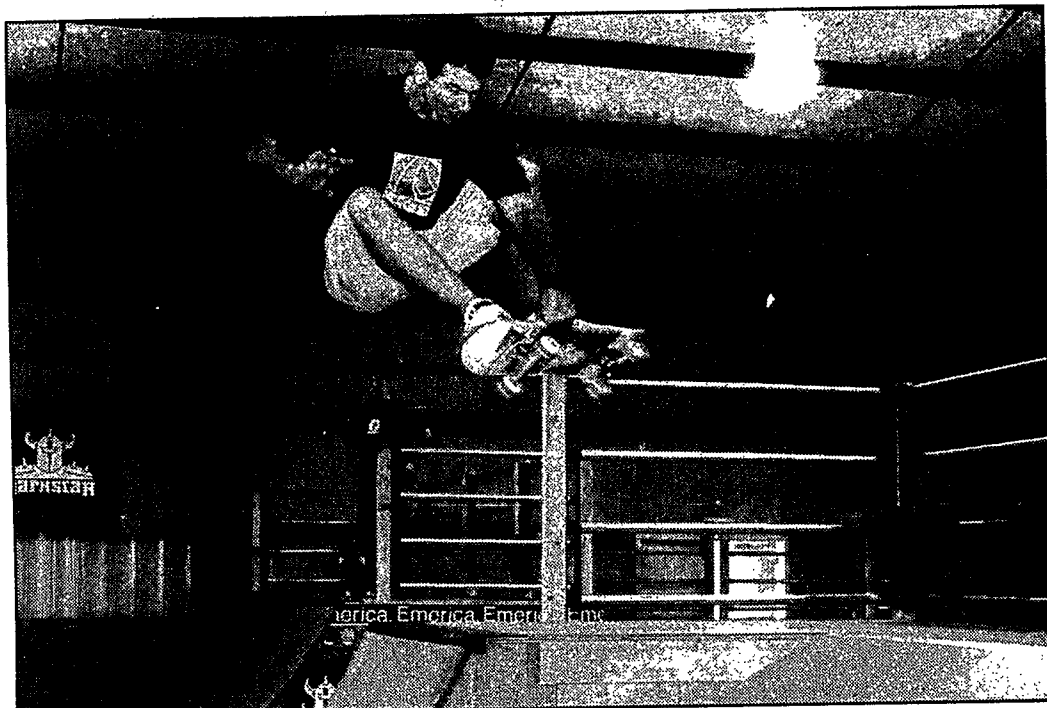
While Chad has not made a decision as to the college or university that he will attend in the fall, he has been accepted into the Texas A & M Honors Engineering Program, the University of Texas at Austin School of Engineering and Millsaps College in Jackson, Mississippi.

Chad is the son of Michelle and Don Allee and along with sister Taylor, makes their home in Pass Christian, Mississippi.



Chad Allee

Skate Expectations



South Coast Skate Park in Waveland will present the Kre-per Truck Spring Tour 2003 today, March 20 at 5 p.m. Spectator fee is \$5; the skating fee is \$10. The demo is from 5 to 6 p.m. The session with the team will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. Team riders include Dave Reul, Ryan Carpenter, Kyle Hagerty, Pee Wee, J.J. Mace, Brigham Edwards and Chris Swanson. For more information, call 228-467-8003 or visit www.southcoastskatepark.com. The park is located at 118 Auderer Blvd.

Gifted children group meets today

THE SEA COAST ECHO
Today, March 20 at 6:30 pm, the Hancock County Association for Gifted Children (HCAGC) will host its Spring General Meeting at the Kiln Library.

Guest speaker will be Carol Paola, Membership Chair of Mississippi Association of Gifted Children (MAGC).

She will speak on the history of MAGC, the profile of a gifted student and programs available to our gifted students.

Ms. Paola is Past President of MAGC and Contact Person for gifted students in the Long Beach School District. HCAGC has been formed as a local chapter of the Mississippi Association of Gifted Children (MAGC) to provide parents and teachers with an opportunity to work together to continue quality education for our gifted students.

HCAGC is open to any parent or teacher of a gifted student enrolled in Hancock County School District or to anyone interested in the programs.

Membership applications will be available at the meeting and through your child's Gifted Instructor.

The purpose of HCAGC is to disseminate information about gifted education and programs, to act as a public advocate for meeting the special needs of gifted children, and to provide student and teacher scholarships.

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Notice to Candidates

The deadline to submit your photo and information for a free political announcement is March 31, 2003.

They will be edited and published on a space available basis.

For more information, call 467-5473.

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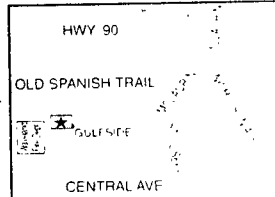
Adoption prices are:

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 467-0230

Included in the adoption fee is first set of vaccination, wormer, rabies vaccination, and a vet check.

Donations of bleach, cat litter, laundry soap, dishwashing liquid, spray disinfectant, dry cat & dog food, rawhide chews and dog & cat shampoo are greatly appreciated.



'Flight of Dimes' to raise funds for celebration of Age of Aviation

BY BILL ROBBINS
Contributing Writer

It will be the Flight of Dimes Saturday, March 29, when volunteer pilots and their airplanes will present a program of sky rides at the Diamondhead Airport - sight-seeing flights for all comers over Diamondhead and surrounding coastal areas.

The program is intended

to raise funds for a two-day exposition celebrating the 100th year of aviation and featuring aircraft of many types and from various periods, from antiques to warplanes, scheduled for the third weekend in September. The celebration of the age of aviation will be part of a gala weekend at Diamondhead, scheduled to coincide with the community's noted annual arts-and-crafts festival.

The pilots, all volunteers who will be donating their time and that of their airplanes, will charge no fees for the March 29 plane rides, but passengers will be asked to make a donation to help defray costs of the September exposition. Donations of 10 cents a pound of the rider's weight will be suggested.

The flights will start at 9 A.M. and continue until mid-afternoon.

The September exposition will celebrate a century of achievement in air and space since that historic day, Dec. 17, 1903, when it all began with one brief flight by Orville Wright over the sand dunes of Kitty Hawk, N.C.

Though the celebration itself is six months away, dozens of volunteers, led by a steering committee that includes Mario Feola, Pete Fritzsche, John Hall, Charles Hense, and many others, are already hard at work on the preparations.

Military service leaders have also promised their cooperation, and local banks and businesses will help finance the event, sponsoring colorful booths to promote their wares and services.

Anyone wishing to help or sign up for the airplane rides should call Charlotte Feola, 255-7011.

Grief support group

Quality Hospice, in conjunction with Wesley Medical Center, is offering "Life After Loss", a grief support group. Meetings are held every Thursday from 3:00-4:30 p.m. at Wesley Medical Center through April 3, 2003. Thereafter, meetings will be held monthly. Schedules for the monthly meetings will be announced at a later date.

Jennifer Garrott, LSW, Coordinator of Social Workers, Quality Hospice, will facilitate the meetings with Pam Malone, LMSW, Social Worker with Quality Hospice, and Chaplain Roger Flowers from Wesley Medical Center. Meetings are open to the public and anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one is invited to attend. For more information on the grief support group, contact Jennifer Garrott, LSW, at (800) 777-4279, or Chaplain Flowers at (601) 268-8403.

Quality Hospice serves patients in Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Pearl River, Stone, George, Perry, Lamar, Forrest, Greene, Marion, Covington and Jones Counties.

Your Neighborhood Business Directory

Where It's At

To advertise your business here
call The Sea Coast Echo at 467-5474

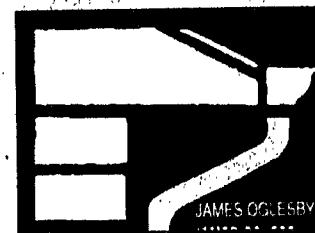


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Entertainment

B.B. King coming to Casino Magic BSL

THE SEA COAST ECHO

B.B. King brings his special style of the blues to Casino Magic Bay St. Louis Friday and Saturday, March 21 and 22, each concert beginning at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$29.95, \$34.95 and \$39.95 and are available at the Casino Magic Box Office or any Ticketmaster location. King has such classics as "Payin' The Cost To Be The Boss," "The Thrill Is Gone," "How Blue Can You Get," "Everyday I Have The Blues," and "Why I Sing The Blues," which are concert and fan staples.

For more than half a century, Riley B. King - better known as B.B. King - has defined the blues for a worldwide audience. Since he started recording in the 1940s, he has released over 50 albums, many of them classics.

He was born on a plantation in Itta Bena, Mississippi in 1925, he spent his youth, playing on street corners for dimes, and would sometimes play in as many as four towns a night.

In 1947, he hitchhiked to Memphis, TN, to pursue his music career because Memphis was where every important musician of the



B.B. King

South gravitated.

B.B. stayed with his cousin Bukka White, one of the most celebrated blues performers of his time, who schooled B.B. further in the art of the blues. B.B.'s first

big break came in 1948 when he performed on Sonny Boy Williamson's radio program on KWEM out of West Memphis.

This led to steady engagements at the

Sixteenth Avenue Grill in West Memphis, and later to a ten-minute spot on Memphis radio station WDIA. "King's Spot," became so popular, it was expanded and became the "Sepia Swing Club." Soon B.B. needed a catchy radio name.

What started out as Beale Street Blues Boy was shortened to Blues Boy King, and eventually B.B. King.

In the mid-1950s, while B.B. was performing in Twist, Arkansas, two men got into a fight, knocking over a kerosene stove and setting fire to the hall. B.B. raced outdoors to safety with everyone else, then realized that he left his beloved \$30 acoustic guitar inside, so he rushed back inside the burning building to retrieve it, narrowly escaping death.

When he later found out that the fight had been over a woman named Lucille, he decided to give the name to his guitar to remind him never to do a crazy thing like fight over a woman.

Ever since, each one of B.B.'s trademark Gibson guitars has been called Lucille.

Over the years, B.B. has

developed one of the world's most identifiable guitar styles. His every-note-counts phrasing, has been a model for thousands of players, from Eric Clapton to George Harrison to Jeff Beck.

B.B. mixes traditional blues with jazz, swing, and mainstream pop into his own unique sound.

In B.B.'s words, "When I sing, I play in my mind; the minute I stop singing orally, I start to sing by playing Lucille."

B.B. was inducted into the Blues Foundation Hall of Fame in 1984 and into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1987.

He received NARAS' Lifetime Achievement Grammy Award in 1987, and has received honorary doctorates from Tougaloo (MS) College in 1973; Yale University in 1977; Berkley College of Music in 1982; Rhodes College of Memphis in 1990 and Mississippi

Surf's up today in Bay St. Louis, dude

Real-life 'Big Kahuna' to share years of experience with local surfers

THE SEA COAST ECHO

On Saturday, Da Beach House welcomes Professional surfer and master surfboard shaper Robert Davis to Bay St. Louis where he will share his adventure and expertise inspired by 15 years of shaping and surfing experience in Hawaii, California, Japan, Florida, the Caribbean and Central America.

Davis will showcase this art form through the presentation of his hand crafted surf boards, to include; Classic and modern longboards, retros, high performance short boards and guns.

Surfing is a growing sport and culture around the world, whether close to surf or not, the dream to surf or to experience the "surfing lifestyle" lives within the hearts of millions.



Since 1965

Master surfboard shaper Robert Davis will share his adventures and expertise today at Da Beach House in Bay St. Louis

Rob Davis will present the surf image and it's growing appeal this Saturday afternoon at Da Beach House, 604 South Beach Blvd., Bay St. Louis. For exact time of Rob's visit and more information please contact Todd @ 467-9477.

Plan early for D'head Arts & Crafts Show

The Twentieth Annual Arts and Creative Crafts Show at Diamondhead will be held on Saturday, September 20, 2003 from 9:30 A. M. till 5 P. M. and Sunday, September 21, 2003 from 10 A. M. till 4 P. M. on the Country Club Circle and grounds.

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VIEW FROM THE TOP
M-F 7, 9 S&S 3, 5, 7, 9

DREAMCATCHER
M-F 6:45, 9:20 S&S 1:30, 4:10, 6:45, 9:20

AGENT CODY BANKS
M-F 7, 9 S&S 3, 5, 7, 9

HOW2LOSE A GUY IN 10
M-F 7 S&S 4:50, 7, 9:10

TEARS OF THE SUN
M-F 9:10 S&S 2:30

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- 25 Flea Markets
- 30 Lost & Found
- 34 Personals
- 36 Special Notices

BUSINESS & SERVICES

- 46 Home Improvement
- 50 Computers
- 53 Schools & Instruction
- 56 Services Offered
- 58 Lawn & Garden

EMPLOYMENT

- 63 Business Opportunities
- 66 Child Care
- 70 Employment
- 73 Help Wanted
- 76 Situation/Job Wanted

MERCHANDISE

- 81 Appliances
- 82 Antiques, Collectibles
- 83 Items For Sale
- 84 Furniture
- 85 Building Materials
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AUCTION SATURDAY MARCH 22th, 7:00 PM. 220 Coleman Ave, Waveland. 467-5528. Consignments welcome. Call in advance. Hernandez MS #881 Gallery MS#882F

36 Special Notices

14TH ANNUAL RIVER REEF'S Crawfish cook-off. April 26. Hwy 603 and Jordan River.

5K/10K RUNNERS!! JOIN STONE County in their 5K/10K fun run for the annual Pine Hill Celebration, April 12, 2003, in Wiggins, MS. For registration, call Stone County Chamber at 601-928-5418.

VENDORS AND CRAFTSMEN!! Join Stone County in their annual Pine Hill Celebration, April 12, 2003 in Downtown Wiggins, MS. For booth information, call The Stone County Chamber at 601-928-5418.

46 Home Improvement

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MULTI-FAM
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81 Appliances

Perry's Appliance Repair:
Stoves, Refrigerators,
Washers and Dryers.
Call 228-332-1073

CLOTHES WASHER, DRIER AND stove. All electric. Very good condition. Make offer. 467-3785.

DOLLAR RENTAL IS CHANGING Forever! Now offering retail sales or 60 days same as cash on new appliances and furniture. Our appliance parts section is now bigger and better than ever. 467-9545

PAUL'S APPLIANCE REPAIR SERVICE: Only \$19.50 for service calls in Bay/Waveland area. We buy, sell or trade all appliances. 90 day warranty on all sales and service. 493-0822.

RECONDITIONED HOME APPLIANCES: full warranty, large selection. In home repairs, over 15 yrs. experience in appliance service. "I can fix what they sold you!" BC&D Home Appliances & Service. 216-1958 or 324-9265.

SKIP'S REBUILT WASHERS & Dryers. 90 day full guaranteed sales, parts, home service. Also buy non working appliances. Bay Washers 467-6122.

83 Items For Sale

14K GOLD & DIAMOND Interlocking, wedding/engagement set. \$1,000. 463-1615.

3 K-MART CHRISTMAS LIMITED edition porcelain dolls. In box. Mint condition. \$75. Leave message (228) 463-9639.

BABYBED BASSET SOLID WOOD with mattress. Good condition \$100. 467-5276

WATERLESS COOKWARE: Stopped doing dinner parties! I have beautiful, 17-pc, 7-ply surgical stainless steel sets left! Lifetime warranty! Were \$2000, now \$695! First 7 callers buy set for 1963 price of \$368! Our 40th anniversary! 1-800-434-4628.

84 Furniture

FURNITURE SALES OR 60 DAYS same as cash. Dollar Rental/Retail. 467-9545.

85 Building Materials

CERAMIC TILE, 89¢-\$1.89, 12"x12" peel & stick 29¢ ea. Mohawk glueless laminate \$1.39 sq.ft. 6 panel pre-hung interior doors \$49.95 (all sizes). Floors, Doors N' More Inc. 985-641-7184. Exit 263 Slidell.

METAL ROOFING/SIDING: Galv. Alum 99¢ lengths to 24', metal bldgs, carports, painted metal 16 colors. Purlins, metal bldg. components. Roofing & sidings form \$14.98 sq. Warehouse Sales, Slidell, La. Exit 263, I-10. 800-842-6646.

88 Tools, Machinery

Cuevas Tractor Equipment Sale
March 1st - 31st
22011 Hwy 43 South, Picayune
(228) 255-0228

90 Pets

ROT/BULL MIX PUPPIES: Beautiful, 6 wks., tailed & wormed. Only \$50. Hurry. 228-216-5257.

93 Yard Sale

109 MOLLERE DR., OFF BEACH Blvd., Waveland, Sat. March 22nd, 8:00-1:00. Antique sofa, misc. items.

402 NECAISE ST., WAVELAND, 8-1 Follow signs from Central, priced to go, captains bed, no dealers.

CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE: 114 Ulman Ave. Fri./21st & Sat./22nd 8:00-1:00.

HUGH MOVING SALE! 221 Nicholson Ave. Sat. 22nd. 10:00-4:00.

MOVING SALE: FRI, SAT, HWY 603 behind Firestone. Solid pine queen canopy bedroom set, everything included, best offer.

MULTI-FAMILY HERD YARD SALE: Lots of stuff, 8:00-until. Saturday, March 22. Located at D & D Tires and BCD Appliances. (Corner of Ave B & 603).

SAT., MARCH 22ND, 8:00-NOON, 546 Main St., B.S.L. Records, books, magazines.

YARD SALE: FURNITURE, MICRO-WAVE, copier, lots of goodies, 9-12, Friday/Saturday, 200 Seminary Drive, BSL.

96 Wanted To Buy

ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES, Tools, dolls, furniture. One piece or house full. Call 467-2628 days.

CASH FOR UNWANTED ITEMS before garage sale, moving, estate disposal or cleaning out. Buying bric brack, households, tools, antiques, sheds/garage items. Wood furniture etc. Call 467-4857 if we can help you out. Also cleaning out sheds/garages for Cash/Contents. All messages returned promptly.

96 Wanted To Buy

WE BUY OLD WATCHES, WRIST, & pocket, rings, gold, estate pieces. \$\$\$Cash\$\$\$ Bayou Jewelers. 466-0425.

126 Campers/Motor Homes

1974 DODGE WINNIBAGO, 24 FT., runs good, good condition, \$3,000. Call 437-4307 or 467-6155.

128 Boats & Motors

14 FT. ALUMINUM BOAT & TRAILER, \$575 or best offer. 1-504-593-0904.

141/2 FT. KENNEDY CRAFT, 25HP Evenrude and trailer, \$950.00 467-9724.

99 YAMAHA WAVE RUNNER. Low running hours, \$3500, 255-2676.

BOAT FOR SALE, 1998, 19' Center console, Bay Quest, 120HP Force 24 volt trolling motor, galvanized trailer, excellent, \$8500. obo, 467-2091.

RON'S OUTBOARD REPAIR: Johnson, Evinrude, Yamaha, Mercury. 100% Satisfaction. Best rates on Coast. 228-533-7945.

130 Motorcycles

'98 HONDA SHADOW ACE 1100, \$7,000. '02 Honda Shadow Deluxe 750, \$5000. 467-8462.

136 Automobiles

00 MUSTANG. LOW MILES, like new, \$214 a month. If you need credit help, ask for special finance. Jimmy Stockstill Motors. 1-800-798-9133.

1993 FORD MUSTANG LX Convertible. Good condition, runs great, new top, cold air, \$2700. 493-5237.

1994 LINCOLN MARK 8, FULLY loaded, \$5500 or best offer. Call 228-466-9685.

1996 OLDS CIERA. Runs great. New tires. 28MPG, \$2500. 467-2746.

2 LOW MILE LINCOLNS, 02 BLACK carter \$24,995. 01 White \$19,995. Jimmy Stockstill Picayune 1-800-798-9133

89 FORD TAURUS. GOOD CONDITION. \$1,700 or best offer Call 467-5512

95 CORVETTE COUPE W/GLASS Top. Automatic, Bose, CD/cassette, dark green/tan, NADA book \$18,600. Sell \$14,000. (985)863-3020, Slidell.

95' LINCOLN MARK VIII: NICE champagne, leather, loaded. Must sell. \$6,000 or best offer. 493-2051.

GREAT-GRADUATION-GIFT. 2000 CHEVY METRO, 36-38MPG, 33K, MUST SELL. BB \$6,200 asking \$5,000. View at 412 Old Spanish Trail. 463-0554

138 Trucks, Vans

2000 BLAZER, 2-door 26,000 MILES. Excellent condition. \$9,500. 228-467-1668

'98 FORD F-150 XL V6, \$7500.00 467-8462.

99 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE: Low miles, loaded, \$259 a month. If you need credit help, ask for special finance. Jimmy Stockstill Motors, Picayune. 1-800-798-9133.

AMERICAN LEGION 47 SEAT diesel bus with on board rest room \$5,500 call for an appointment. 467-9637 or 469-9600

143 Real Estate Services

"All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis."

145 Roommates Wanted

ROOMMATE WANTED TO SHARE 4,000 sq.ft. furnished house. B.S.L. near beach. Smoke/pet free. \$400.00/month plus utilities split. 469-0639.

147 Apartments For Rent

1 BEDROOM COMPLETELY furnished. Waterfront apartment, Jordan Subdivision off 603. Pet-free environment. \$430/month, \$200/deposit. 255-1264.

1 BEDROOM, ALL ELECTRIC. Carpet, stove, refrigerator, water included. 100'B" Blaize Ave., BSL, \$350/month, \$300/deposit. Pet/free. Lease required. Call 463-0043.

1 BR/1 BATH, INCLUDES STOVE and refrigerator. Nice size unit with heat & a/c. Carpeted and located: 208 Carroll Ave., Apt. "H", Bay St. Louis, Ms. \$325.00 monthly rent with \$250.00 deposit. No lease, pet free 467-5662 or 467-4613.

1c MOVES YOU IN!! Call Signature Lake Apartments for details. 452-9901.

147 Apartments For Rent

1BR APT NEAR OLD TOWN BSL. Clean, fresh paint, cent. air/heat. \$390 plus deposit. 467-0792

1BR EFFICIENCY, UTILITIES PAID, new carpet. \$400. Call 466-2631

2 & 3BR/1-1/2 BA. DUPLEX: Washer & dryer hookups, 1 year lease, plus deposit. 467-3601.

Spring Savings \$99 Rent
on our spacious 2 Bedrooms for The Month of April.
Pelican Point Apartments 467-3388

The Waverly Apartments
NOW LEASING
Brand New!! 1, 2 & 3 BR's

New Special: 99¢ Deposit, 1st Month Rent FREE

(228) 463-2635

FOR RENT: 1 BEDROOM Furnished apartment. Call A.J. 467-8401.

ON THE WATER, B.S.L., NEW Construction, 1 bedroom, all kitchen appliances, free cable TV and water. \$450/month plus deposit. Near hospital and Casino. 504-982-0028.

TOTAL ELECTRIC 2BDRM 1BATH, W/D Hookup, Ctr. H/A/C, Fenced Patio. \$450 mo. +Deposit. 586-0053.

WATERFRONT COTTAGE: Completely furnished, very clean, cozy efficiency, utilities included, near Lakeshore & Port Bienville. \$425/month, \$300/deposit. 466-9500.

WATERFRONT: 1500 SQ.FT. APT. Dining-room, 2 bedroom, new kitchen appliance, new carpet/flooring, large decks, pet free, drug free, \$550/month+deposit. 467-6849.

148 Mobile Homes For Rent

1BR/1BATH WATERFRONT. Quiet location. Pet/smoke free \$280/month, \$200/deposit. Sailfish Realty. 466-9947.

2BR TRAILER FOR RENT, KILN Area. 255-5529.

2BR TRAILER IN PEARLINGTON area, close to Port & Harbor. \$400/month plus/deposit. 533-7825 or 533-9127.

COUNTRY LIVING: NORTH HANCOCK County Ceasar-Necaise Road. 2/bedroom, 1/bath, \$345/month. 3/bedroom, 2/bath, \$445/month. Small 2/bedroom, 1/bath, \$300. Deposit required. Over looking lake. 228-255-4067.

FURNISHED 2 BEDROOM Fenced yard, bills paid, \$150/week, \$150/deposit. 228-463-1872

ONE BEDROOM TRAILER and two bedroom trailer. Pet free. Deposit required. 493-5799 or 255-7431.

TWO BEDROOM ONE BATH \$350/month, \$150/deposit. 228-760-2205.

TWO BEDROOMS. WATER, ELECTRIC, sewer, garbage services furnished. Rent \$150/week each. Security deposit required. 228-463-1872.

149 Mobile Homes For Sale

12x60 MOBILE HOME. \$2,500. 2 window units, heater, propane tank, and electrical pole included. 255-7508

14X56 MOBILE HOME (1987) on lot with sewage and electric. Harbor Dr. area. \$12,500. 466-6358.

1999, 80X16 PATRIOT MOBILE Home: 4 bedroom 2 bath, plywood floors & walls, vinyl siding, shingle roof. Paid \$32,000. Aug. 01. Now \$17,000. 228-990-7300.

FOR SALE HOUSE TRAILER: WHY Rent? \$2000/down, \$513.88/month can move you into a 1998 3 br, 2 bath mobile home on 4 lots, nice yard, ready to move in. City water & sewer, excellent condition. 228-255-0006, 216-0964, 601-916-4189.

149 Mobile Homes For Sale

MEADOWS MOBILE HOME LOT, Hwy 603, Waveland, Ms. Closing, 2 single wides and 2 double wides left to sell. No reasonable offer refused. 228-466-9900.

MOBILE HOME REPO 3B, 2B, 28X48. Lenders must sell, \$24,000. 1-885-727-3052.

WHY RENT? \$2000.00/DOWN, \$478.00/month can move you into a 2000 3 bedroom, 2 bath Mobile home on large lot. Ready to move in. City water & sewer. Excellent condition. 1-801-916-4189, 228-255-0006, 216-0964.

150 Unfurn. Houses Rent

2 BEDROOM COTTAGE FOR RENT: \$395/month, \$395/deposit. 467-6533. Ask for Mike.

2, 3 & 4 BDRM HOUSES. \$385 to \$800 mo. Pet free. Key Properties, 467-0600.

2BR HOME W/DECK ON WATER Shoreline Park near I-10. Kitchen appliances, Cent/A/C. W/D hookups. \$485/month with 1 month deposit. 467-4138

2BR/1BA, \$500/MONTH, close to Casino. Call 467-9278.

2BR/1BA, FENCED YARD, 1 block from beach. \$575/month plus deposit 228-323-1346.

3 BEDROOM, 1 BATH, WASHER dryer hookups, pet-free, \$550/month plus \$500 deposit. 466-5971.

3BR/2-FULL BATHS, FENCED yard, close to beach, all electric, pet/smoke free. \$750/month, \$750/deposit (352)394-4782.

3BR/2BA, QUIET NEIGHBORHOOD Near beach. \$720/mo., \$400/dep. 466-2863.

B.S.L. 1BR/1BA COTTAGE: Ac/heat, appliances, hook ups, \$390/mo. \$350/dep. Pet/smoke free. Sailfish Realty. 466-9947.

COTTAGE: 1 BEDROOM 1 BATH, 141-1/2 Market St. Waveland. Call 467-7678.

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COTTAGE: 1 BEDROOM 1 BATH, 141-1/2 Market St. Waveland. Call 467-7678.

FOR RENT: 3BR/2BA., new construction, 168 & 172 Felicity, \$775.; 803 Spanish Acres Dr. 3BR/2BA \$600/month; 405-A Citizen St. Townhome. 3BR/2-1/2BA \$850. Call Chari at McIntyre Rapp Real Estate, 467-3777.

LIKE NEW 3 BR, 2 BA FROM \$750 per month. Century 21 of Diamondhead. 255-3550.

NEW 1500-2500 SQ FT DOUBLE wides, brick foundation, driveways, sidewalks, landscape yard, underground utilities, ready to move in! Great school district. Own easier than rent. For info/appt. Chris 228-609-0898.

RAISED 2BD ALL ELECTRIC AC/Heat, stove and refrigerator furnished. Carpeted, very clean. 1 year lease. References required. Sewer and water furnished. \$500/dep, \$600/month. 6183 2nd St. off Harbor Dr., 467-8287

SPANISH ACRES: 3 BEDROOM, 2 full baths, fenced yard. \$650/month plus deposit. 467-4987.

151 Furn. Houses Rent

6176 S. BEACH 3BR/2BA DECK Overlooks Gulf. \$600/mo, lease. Call (504)391-9903

156 Lots/Acreage

1 BLOCK OFF HWY 603, LARGE corner lot. Logan and 2nd Street. Oak trees, water and sewer available. Houses only. 228-868-2066.

2 50X100 OR 1 100X100 WATERFRONT lot on Manhattan St. in Riverview near the Jordan River. Call 493-9857 or 466-9857.

7 WOODED ACRES CONV to I-10 \$5,000 per ac. Waterfront lots \$12,000 up. Call for details. Key Properties 467-0600.

HENLEY PLACE, BAY ST. LOUIS, MS. Extra large corner lot blocks from the beach. In well known area, with nice homes. \$21,500 call (985)781-8400

156 Lots/Acreage

LOT 72X140, SEWAGE, Electric pole, 60' culvert, mobile home ok. Harbor Dr. area, \$7500. 466-6358.

NICE WATERFRONT LOT in Shoreline Park, \$13,000. Owner finance \$2600 down, 10% interest \$221/month, 5 years. Owner/agent. 669-4444 or 255-0403.

OWNER FINANCE: NICE BUILDING LOT, Pine Ridge, Waveland, \$19,000. Gold Coast, 228-467-4479.

PROPERTY FOR SALE: 4 LOTS, back to back, street to street, 23rd Street, Shoreline Park, \$8000; Also 2 lots, East Issaquena St., Bayside Park, \$3000. 467-2091.

WAIT NOT!! WANT NOT!! Beautifully cleared 1/2 acre lots. Private community, paved streets, close to entertainment. Carlton Roberts Road. Call Lori, 228-216-2002. Coldwell Banker

WHITE CYPRESS LAKES: OWNER financing. Beautiful acreage lots, waterfront, trailer lots, pool, clubhouse, tennis courts, and fishing. Ten miles east of I-59, Carriere exit. Thirty miles from Bay St. Louis. 228-255-1790.

158 Commercial Property

2 COMMERCIAL LOTS FOR SALE: 100'x200' total, on Hwy. 603. \$42,500 for both. 467-9545 or 466-2505.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY: 415 Necaise, BSL, \$225/month. Call for info. 467-9278.

OFFICE & RETAIL SPACE available: Choctaw Village, Waveland Ms. Phone 228-255-4396 or Pager 228-883-8554.

PRUDENTIAL GARDNER: Excellent office location, 1015 Hwy. 90. 2 units available. Close to Hancock Medical Center. Terms negotiable. Call for info/appointment. 467-1602.

159 Houses For Sale

2BR/1BA. JUST REMODELED. NEW appliances, window treatments, Berber carpet, wood floors in kitchen, new cabinets, new bath, one block off the bay. \$68,500. 228-466-5800, Cell 228-363-0313

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2BR/1BA. JUST REMODELED. NEW appliances, window treatments, Berber carpet, wood floors in kitchen, new cabinets, new bath, one block off the bay. \$68,500. 228-466

POWER BUYS YOU DON'T NEED A CARD FOR.


USDA Fresh Fryer Leg Quarters

39¢ Value Bag LB


NO Card Needed
Everybody Gets Our Lowest Price Everyday!



USDA Lean & Meaty Boston Butt Pork Roast

89¢ Twin Pack LB

NO Card Needed
Everybody Gets Our Lowest Price Everyday!

MEAT CUT FRESH DAILY! NO SOLUTIONS ADDED TO ENHANCE OUR MEATS!


Super Select Cucumbers or Large Green Bell Peppers

4/1 EA

NO Card Needed
Everybody Gets Our Lowest Price Everyday!



Boar's Head Golden Classic Chicken

\$5.89 LB

NO Card Needed
Everybody Gets Our Lowest Price Everyday!

POWER BUYS YOU DON'T NEED A CARD FOR.


Coke, Sprite Barq's & Dr. Pepper

4/5 6pk of 12oz cans

NO Card Needed
Everybody Gets Our Lowest Price Everyday!



Best Yet Vegetable Oil

\$3.39 1 Gal

NO Card Needed
Everybody Gets Our Lowest Price Everyday!

CHECK STORE FOR MANY MORE SUPER BUYS EVERYDAY!


Kraft American Cheese Singles

\$1.59 12oz

NO Card Needed
Everybody Gets Our Lowest Price Everyday!



Assorted Flavors Blue Bell Ice Cream

3/10 1/2 GAL

NO Card Needed
Everybody Gets Our Lowest Price Everyday!

POWER BUYS YOU DON'T NEED A CARD FOR.**THANK-YOU FOR MAKING US YOUR CHOICE TO SHOP.****4 CONVENIENT LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU!**

Diamondhead Supermarket

255-3430

Diamondhead Plaza, Diamondhead
Sun - Thurs 7:00 am-9:00 pm
Fri & Sat 7:00 am-9:00 pm

choice
Supermarket

Long Beach
214-9716
200 W. Railroad St.
Sun - Thurs 7:00 am-9:00 pm
Fri & Sat 7:00 am-10:00 pm

Gulfport
594-0265
Hardy Court • Gulfport
Sun - Sat 7:00 am-10:00 pm

WAVELAND MARKET CENTER

463-0544

Waveland Shopping Center, Waveland
Sun - Thurs 7:00 am-9:00 pm
Fri & Sat 7:00 am-9:00 pm



Use Your Bank
Debit Card

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES AND TO
CORRECT ALL TYPOGRAPHICAL AND PICTORIAL ERRORS.
NO SALES TO DEALERS OR STORES.

Sale prices good
March 19 - March 25, 2003

WED-THU-FRI-SAT-SUN MON-TUE
19-20-21-22-23 24-25



spring...

on the

road

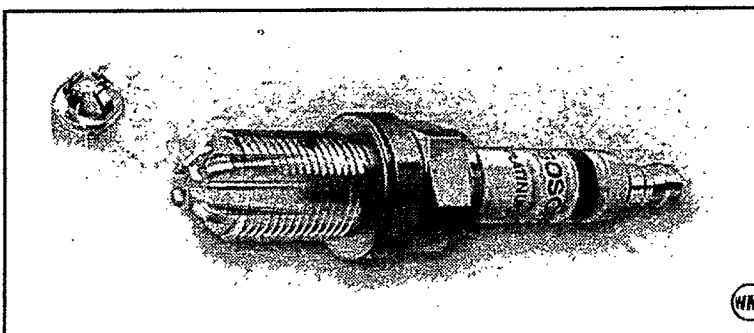
A Special Edition of The Sea Coast Echo • Thursday, March 20, 2003

Tune-Up Can Still Restore Performance, Mileage

THE SEA COAST ECHO

"You almost certainly need a tune-up if your fuel mileage has gone to pot, if your car or truck is sluggish and appears to have lost its zip, if it is hard to start or you have failed an emission inspection," according to Martin Kashnowski, director of Product Management, Consumer Products, for Robert Bosch Corporation. "These are sure signs something is amiss under the hood, and you can expect a good tune-up to improve your vehicle's gasoline mileage, restore the performance and pleasure to your driving, make sure you pass that emissions inspection and possibly save your catalytic converter from costly replacement."

Basically, a tune-up today usually means: Inspecting and replacing the spark plugs; checking and replacing the spark plug wires;



TESTS SHOW installing premium spark plugs such as Bosch's multiple-electrode Platinum+4 improves fuel mileage by as much as 4.8 percent over original equipment plugs. This plug uses a platinum center electrode and multiple paths to generate a strong, consistent spark.

replacing oxygen sensors if mileage or driving patterns warrant; checking and replacing the distributor cap and rotor (if so equipped) if worn or cracked; inspecting and replacing air and fuel filters as needed; and verifying proper operation of various sensors and other electronic control devices.

But wait a minute. Isn't everything under the hood

supposed to last for 50,000 miles or more before replacement is needed? Well, maybe yes and maybe no. Many components today have a recommended replacement interval of 50,000 miles or more under ideal operating conditions -- the problem is, few of us drive under ideal operating conditions.

"NORMAL DRIVING" CAN PUNISH VEHICLES

"Short trip driving, carrying or pulling excess weight for extended periods or constant idling can prevent the spark plugs from getting hot enough to burn off deposits, causing them to foul," Kashnowski said. "Fouled plugs or plugs whose electrodes are so worn they widen the air gap so much the plug will not fire properly. Your mechanic should replace the spark plugs if they're oil or carbon-fouled, if they're covered with deposits, or if the electrodes are noticeably worn."

Independent studies have shown that installing plugs such as the Bosch Platinum+4 can improve fuel mileage by nearly five percent, make the vehicle easier to start, and maintain superior performance for tens of thousands of tough, punishing miles, according to Kashnowski.

Your mechanic should also

check the ignition wires, which carry the "juice" from the coil and distributor to each spark plug (some modern cars use distributorless ignition and direct coil packs for each cylinder that eliminate the need for spark plug wires).

"If your mechanic recommends replacing the ignition wires, low-resistance Mag core wires, such as Bosch Premium wire sets, are available for most applications and a good bet to ensure a strong spark and long life," says Chuck Ruth, director of Product Management, Engine Management Systems, for Bosch.

But be careful -- some manufacturers recommend replacing the coil whenever replacing ignition wires, to avoid the higher resistance in new wires from damaging

TUNE-UP--PAGE 5

You've Got the Dream Home.



Here are Two Great Ways to Park a Dream in the Driveway.

Whether your dream is a new Lexus or new landscaping, your credit union offers two great ways to help you start living it today. Both our Home Equity Line of Credit and Auto Loans offer the lowest rates around. So, you'll have the power to chase your dreams with confidence.

HOME EQUITY Line of Credit

as low as
4.25% APR

AUTO LOANS 2000-2003 Models

as low as
4.75% APR

Personal Loan Service

Harrison County Hancock County
228/539.7029 866/539.7029

Gulf Coast Community
Federal Credit Union

Stop dreaming. Start Living.

All or a portion of your interest may be tax deductible. Consult your tax advisor regarding deductibility of interest. Actual Home Equity Line of Credit APR may vary and will range between Wall Street Journal Prime Rate and Wall Street Journal Prime Rate plus a minimum margin of 1.00% and a maximum margin of 2.50% based on prior credit performance and ability to repay. For example, the rate as of 11/22/02 ranges from 4.25% APR to 6.75% APR. Rates are subject to change and may be adjusted based on Wall Street Journal Prime Rate, not to exceed 16% APR or the maximum permitted by law, whichever is less. The maximum APR charged will be based on the type of HELOC extended. Finance charges begin to accrue on the date you obtain the advance. No closing costs with qualified appraisal. Acceptable properties only in Harrison, Hancock, Jackson and Stone Counties. Appropriate property insurance required. Minimum loan amount \$10,000/maximum loan amount \$100,000. An equal housing opportunity lender. APR refers to Annual Percentage Rate. Special 4.75% APR auto loan rate for up to 60 months is a limited time only offer that applies to new loans only with GCCFCU or refinances from another lender. Applies to new and used autos 2000-2003. Rates and terms based on prior credit performance, age of collateral, and may vary based on mileage. Members who do not qualify for the special rate offer may qualify for regular rates and terms. Membership eligibility required. You must live, work, worship or attend school in Harrison or Hancock County. Your deposits are insured by the National Credit Union Administration.



How to Shop for Good Auto Repair

THE SEA COAST ECHO

The following advice from the nonprofit National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) should take much of the guesswork out of finding a good repair establishment.

* Read your owner's manual to become familiar with your vehicle and follow the manufacturer's suggested service schedules. Start shopping for a repair facility before you need one; you can make better decisions when you are not rushed or in a panic.

* Ask friends and associates for their recommendations. Even in this high-tech era, old-fashioned word-of-mouth reputation is still valuable. Check with your local consumer organizations like the Department of Consumer Affairs or the Better Business Bureau regarding the reputation of the shop. If possible, arrange for alternate transportation in advance so you will not feel forced to choose a facility solely on its location.

* Look for a neat, well-organized facility, with vehicles in the parking lot equal in value to your own and modern equipment in the service bays. Professionally run establishments will have a courteous, helpful staff. The service consultant should be willing to answer your questions. Feel free to ask for the names of a few customers. Call them and ask about their experience with the shop. All policies (labor rates, diagnostic fees, guarantees, methods of payment) should be posted or explained to your satisfac-

tion. Ask if the shop customarily handles your vehicle make and model.

* Look for signs of professionalism or achievement in the customer service area: civic and community service awards, membership in the Better Business Bureau, AAA-Approved Auto Repair status, Blue Seal of Excellence Recognition Program status and customer service awards.

* The backbone of any shop is the competence of the technicians. Look for qualified technicians as evidenced by trade school diplomas, certificates of advanced course work and ASE certifications, a national standard of technician competence. The independent, nonprofit National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) conducts the only industry-wide, national certification program for automotive technicians. ASE certifies the competency of individual technicians through a series of standardized specialty exams.

* Keep good records and save all paperwork. Reward good service with repeat business. It is beneficial to you and the shop owner to establish a relationship. If the service was not all you expected, discuss the problem with the service manager or owner and give the business a chance to resolve the problem.

Reputable shops value customer feedback and will make a sincere effort to keep your business. Visit www.ase.com for more information.



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A Lot is Riding on Your Vehicle's Tires

THE SEA COAST ECHO (WMS) - The wave of tire failures and recalls linked to fatal accidents in recent years has directed attention to the importance of maintaining proper air pressure in your vehicle's tires. In addition to making your vehicle safer, maintaining correct tire pressure also saves you money by improving your vehicle's fuel mileage and handling while reducing tire wear. In spite of these facts, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) estimates that one in four passenger cars has at least one under-inflated tire. For

sport utility and light trucks, this statistic jumps to one in every three vehicles.

All tires naturally lose air over time or more quickly if driven over a pothole or bumped into a curb; therefore it's important to check tire pressure at least once a month. The only proper way to check pressure is with a tire pressure gauge. A visual exam is not sufficient -- many tires appear safe, even when they are under-inflated.

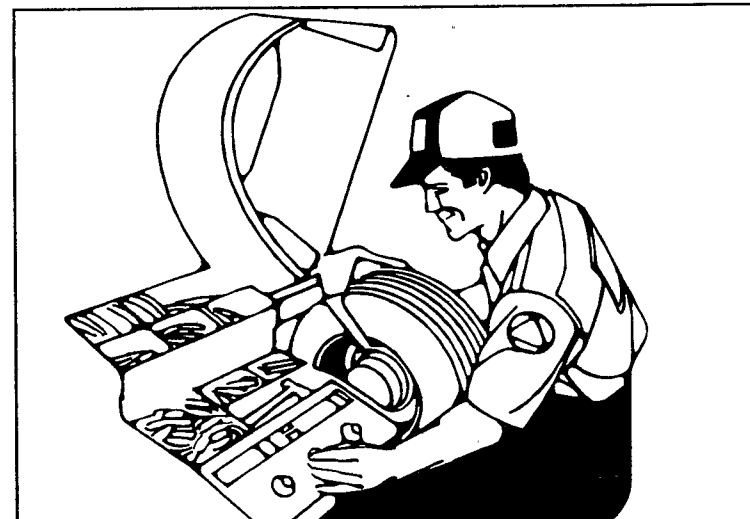
Look for tire information labels attached to your vehicle's door edge, the doorpost, inside the glove box door or under the trunk lid. These

labels will include the recommended tire size and tire pressure for your vehicle. The proper tire inflation pressure will be shown as a number of pounds per square inch (PSI).

Air pressure rises as your tires get warmer, but the manufacturer recommended air pressure for your tires is based on when they are cold. To ensure an accurate reading, you should check the pressure when the vehicle has not been driven for at least three hours.

If you are driving and think that a tire is under-inflated, fill it to the recommended cold inflation pressure. While it may still be slightly under-inflated, it is safer to drive with air pressure that is just below recommendation than to drive with a significantly under-inflated tire. Remember, this is only a temporary solution, so recheck and adjust the tire's pressure when you can obtain an accurate cold reading.

The tire and vehicle makers are currently putting new technologies in place to help motorists maintain proper tire pressure. By November 2003, vehicle makers will be installing tire pressure monitors to alert drivers when a tire is under-



Tire and vehicle makers are currently putting new technologies in place to help motorists maintain proper tire pressure. By November 2003, vehicle makers will be installing tire pressure monitors to alert drivers when a tire is under-inflated. NHTSA is letting vehicle makers decide which of two tire pressure-monitoring systems to install.

inflated. NHTSA is letting vehicle makers decide which of two tire pressure-monitoring systems to install. One option is a direct system, which has sensors located in each wheel to measure the pressure of each tire. A less expensive alternative is a system that works with the vehicle's anti-lock braking system, alerting the driver that a tire is under-inflated but not specifying which one.

Another technology that may become more prevalent is run-flat tires, which are now available on various higher-end vehicles. These specially designed tires can support the weight of the vehicle even when deflated, such as when they are punctured. But because these tires don't appear "flat" even when air pressure is low, checking the air pressure regularly is critical. These tires also require special equipment and procedures for removal, installation or repair.

Recent tire concerns and resulting technology also point to the importance of having your vehicle repaired after an accident by a colli-

sion repair business that understands how tire condition and pressure, tire and wheel alignment, and proper unibody or frame repair work together to keep you safe on the road.

Many insurance companies and collision repair associations recommend you look for a collision repair business that has earned the I-CAR® Gold Class Professionals® designation, which indicates that a collision repair business' employees have completed a substantial amount of leading edge collision industry training. I-CAR, the Inter-Industry Conference on Auto Collision Repair, a not-for-profit organization, established the Gold Class Professionals designation to help consumers identify collision repair businesses that are committed to on-going collision training. The training provided by I-CAR and members of the Industry Training Alliance®, formed by I-CAR, covers virtually every step of the repair process, including analyzing the damage, structural repair processes, corrosion protection, steel and aluminum welding, matching your vehicle's paint finish, and checking safety features such as airbag deployment, seatbelts and anti-lock braking systems.

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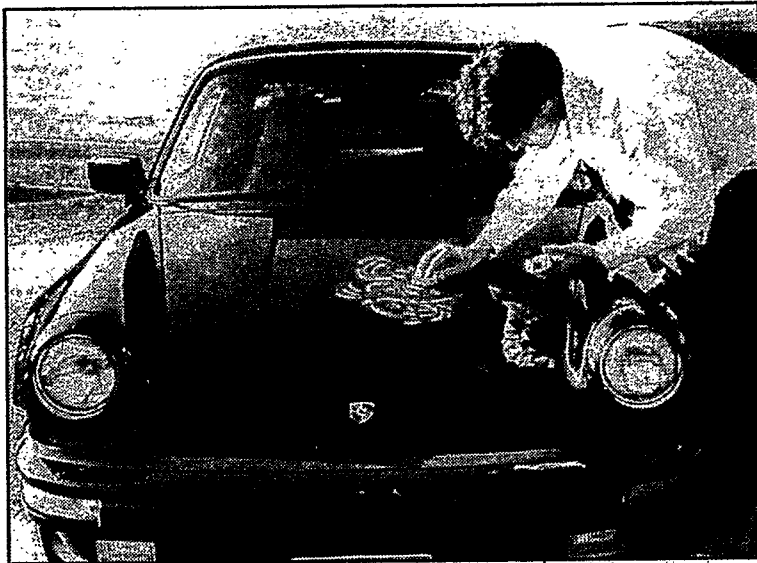
Keep Your Car Looking Shiny and New

THE SEA COAST ECHO

There is no mistaking the appeal of a shiny new car. That fresh-from-the-showroom look turns heads and garners nods of approval. Yet, pollution, weather, scratches and a host of other pesky problems can soon leave your car's exterior looking dull and less appealing. Perhaps you'd think that waxing can help restore shine to your car. Well, not if you don't use the right product.

Many commonly used waxes can actually dull a new car's mirror finish. They use a combination of wax or silicone and a harsh abrasive polish which causes tiny scratches. The scratches can deflect light, ruin new paint and create an overall reduction in shine.

Your new car should not be exposed to these abrasives -- a washing and a follow-up with an abrasive-free wax may be all you need to once



BE CAREFUL WHEN YOU WAX - commonly used waxes can dull a new car's finish. Instead, use an abrasive-free car wax made with Imported Carnauba.

again get that sparkling, fresh from the dealership shine.

The most effective waxes are made with imported Carnauba wax. Carnauba is found on a select group of

palm trees that grow mainly in Brazil. The first car waxes were composed of this ingredient and were abrasive-free. As the costs of gathering and importing this natural wax skyrocketed, chemists created less expensive "wax-less" substitutes. Abrasives were then added to these new products. They were billed as the "lazy man's one-step car

polish." Unfortunately, they've never been able to equal the extreme high gloss and lasting power of pure Carnauba wax. The progression from Carnauba to man-made synthetics occurred over many years. Therefore, only astute consumers realized they were getting less shine for their money.

Today it is difficult to find an abrasive-free car wax containing the best grades of Carnauba. One company that markets a blend of Carnauba waxes is the Malm Chemical Corp. Their Carnauba wax contains no cleansers, polishes, abrasives or anything that can scratch paint. A quarter-pint of the concentrated liquid Carnauba will cover more cars than a full pint of most store-bought

waxes.

Readers of this newspaper can obtain a quarter-pint bottle for \$7.99 plus \$2 for shipping (U.S. funds) -- a 45-percent discount off the regular cost of \$17.95. You'll also receive a free 11-page guide, "The Truth About Car Waxes."

It has tips on the proper way to care for your car's finish. The offer is limited to one bottle per customer and will soon expire. The wax is backed by a strong guarantee: If you don't think it outshines anything you've ever used on your car, return it for a full refund of your \$9.99.

Write to Malm Chemical Corp., Box 300, Dept. ME503, Pound Ridge, N.Y. 10576 or visit their Web site at www.malms.com.

Tune-up

Continued from Page 2

the ignition module.

Another critical component in keeping today's vehicles running properly is the oxygen sensor.

"Oxygen sensors located in the exhaust system monitor the unburned hydrocarbons and oxygen in the exhaust and send signals to the engine's computer, which uses this information to maintain the proper mixture of fuel and air fed to the engine," Ruth said. Replacing a sluggish or defective sensor can improve fuel economy from 10 to 15 percent and pay for itself in a year in fuel savings alone, while restoring your vehicle's emissions to proper levels. It can also reduce the chances of an overly rich fuel mixture damaging your catalytic converter.

Ignition components such as the distributor rotor and distributor cap, which direct the flow of electricity to the spark plugs, must work properly if the spark plugs are to fire when they are supposed to -- or fire at all. If

in doubt, replacing the distributor cap and rotor is simple and inexpensive insurance against poor performance and fuel economy as well as potential engine failure.

Replacing the air filter and crankcase breather filters is a normal part of any tune-up and of course, tests should be conducted on all electronic control devices and sensors to make sure they are operating properly.

"Only time will tell whether you will be aware of all the improvements, but every day your car or truck starts easily, accelerates smoothly to highway speeds, uses significantly less fuel and is in compliance with emissions requirements, you will be reaping the benefits," said Kashnowski.

"And, you will be seeing these benefits in dollars and cents as well as driving pleasure for tens of thousand of miles."

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Common Questions About Synthetic Motor Oil

THE SEA COAST ECHO

In recent years, there has been a steady rise in the use of synthetic motor oils because of their superior performance benefits. What follows is a presentation of information on synthetic motor oils and lubricants courtesy of AMSOIL INC., a manufacturer of the first synthetic motor oil for automobiles in 1972.

Q: What is the difference between conventional and

synthetic motor oil?

A: Conventional lubricants are refined from crude oil which has thousands of types of molecules. Refining is a process of physically separating the impurities from the oil and further separating the light and heavy components. Because refining separates products by weight, it groups molecules of similar weight and dissimilar structure. The result is a lubricant with an assortment of molecules. Some of the substances

in crude oil are detrimental to lubrication. Paraffins, for example, are a common conventional oil contaminant that causes motor oil to thicken in cold temperatures. Synthetic motor oils are made from pure chemicals, not refined crude.

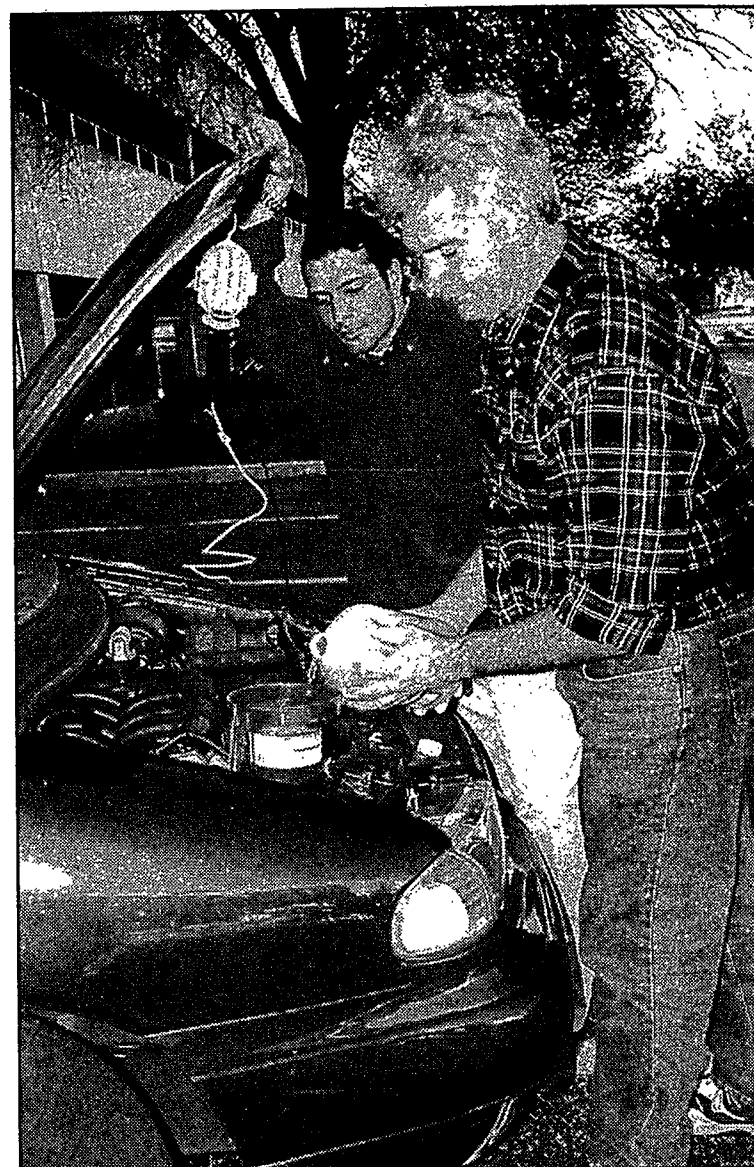
Their components are chemically reacted to produce finished products with pre-designed performance characteristics. Because of their molecular uniformity, they excel in reducing friction, which improves fuel efficiency, controls heat and reduces wear. This molecular uniformity also helps synthetics resist thinning in hot temperatures and thickening in cold.

Q: My friend says synthetic oils are better for the environment. I say that improperly disposed, synthetic oils aren't really any better. Who's right?

A: You are both right. The environmental benefits of synthetic lubricants are most apparent when you consider their extended drain capabilities. Synthetic compressor oils last eight times longer than their petroleum counterparts. This means eight times less waste oil to dispose of. Synthetic motor oils for cars and light trucks have drain recommendations of two to 10 times conventional petroleum depending on the product and the manufacturer. Fewer oil changes means less waste oil as well as less container waste disposal. If oil change intervals were extended universally, there would be less making its way into our drinking water. It should be noted that synthetic motor oils still require the same disposal care as traditional petroleum motor oils.

Q: I know synthetic motor oil is better in winter cold, but what about benefits for people who live in Arizona or South Texas? Do synthetics have any hot weather advantages?

A: Oil volatility is the measure of how susceptible an oil is to boil-off under high heat conditions. Most petroleum oils experience significant



LEARNING ABOUT MOTOR OIL will teach you how to make your car run more efficiently.(WMS) - Motor oils serve a variety of functions in your car's engine. In addition to lubricating and cooling engine parts, motor oil must allow easy starting, protect the engine from corrosion and oxidation, keep the engine clean, form a tight seal between piston rings and cylinder walls and help the engine use fuel efficiently.

cant boil-off during high temp engine operation and are expelled into the environment.

The thicker oil left behind contributes to damaging deposits, sticky piston rings and oil blow-by, all contributing to reduced life and drag on performance. Synthetic oils are far more impervious to this kind of degradation. The lower volatility of synthetics is another reason they are better for the environment than conventional products.

Q: Are there any advantages to conventional petroleum oils?

A: Petroleum-based motor

oils do have an initial price advantage over synthetics. In advancing the cost issue, it helps to keep in mind that even the most expensive motor oil is cheaper than engine repairs caused by inadequate metal to metal protection or general lubricant failure. Synthetics have been proven to give superior year-round protection and performance.

When motorists evaluate their lubricant costs on a per year or per mile basis, rather than on the basis of cost per oil change, synthetic motor oils with extended drain intervals will actually cost less than conventional motor oils.



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Easy Tips For Successful Family Road Trips

THE SEA COAST ECHO

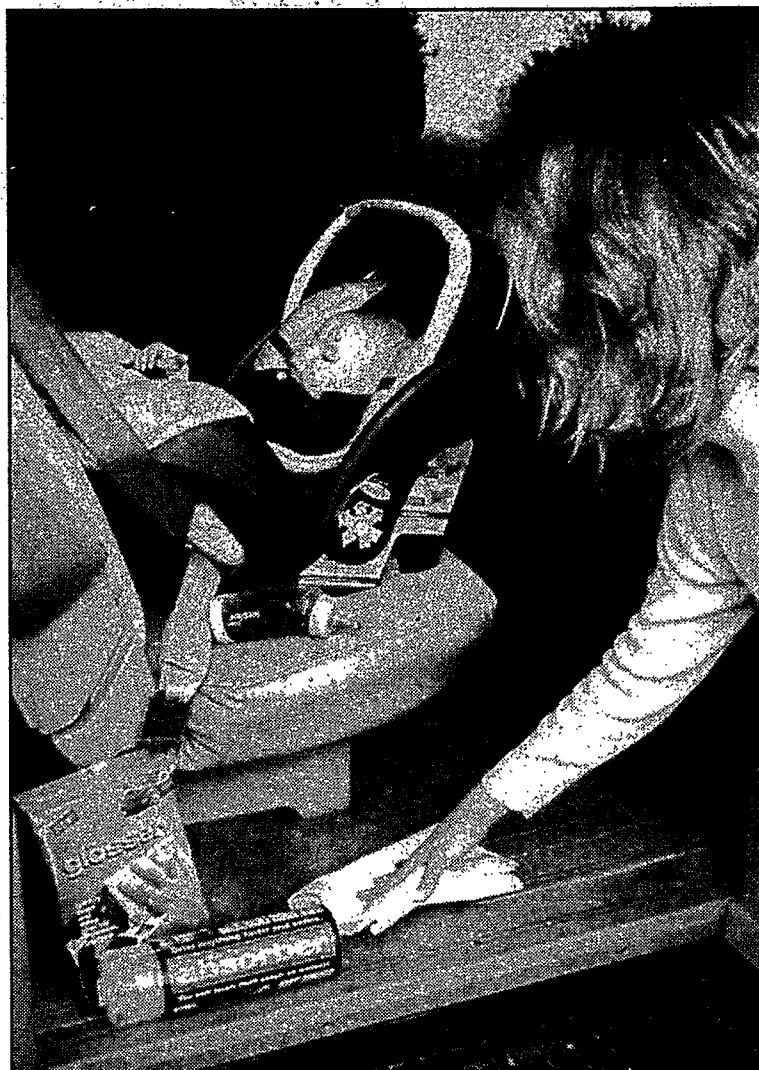
Aside from the obvious drawbacks, time spent traveling together can create memories that your children will remember for the rest of their lives. Following are a few suggestions from veteran "road warrior" parents that can help make your trip a calmer, more pleasurable one.

Plan the Route

Joe Lester, a father of two from Lomita, California, suggests getting the kids involved in planning the trip. "Getting them involved to help select the route to take and some of the places to visit along the way will give them a vested interest in the journey," he says.

Before you go, help children research historical points of interest along the way. Not only will it build anticipation for the trip, it's an opportunity to keep up with your child's interests. When you start out, give children maps to trace your routes or help them create their own maps and identify landmarks along the way. A fun way to keep children entertained, it is also a great way to build or reinforce your child's geography, research and history skills.

Another option is to have each child create a travel journal. Keep plenty of pens and colored pencils handy (colored pencils are less likely to stain the vehicle's interior than stepped-on crayons or felt-tip markers). Using a



PERFECT FOR ROAD TRIPS, tools like The Absorber (featured above) can be used for an array of purposes, from fast and easy car cleanups to cooling a fever. (WMS) - When it comes to planning a family road trip, take a good long breath and let go of any expectations you may have about what constitutes "quality" time with the entire family. Even parents who set out with the best intentions to enjoy time together are sometimes gripped by the fantasy of dropping everyone off at a rest stop and driving away before the rest of the family realizes they're gone.

three-ring binder provides ing you to intersperse lined pages for note taking with

blank pages for coloring and photo book pages to capture small keepsakes found throughout the journey.

Be Prepared

Make sure to keep plenty of snacks and water on hand. Every parent knows that hungry little travelers are usually difficult little travelers. Bring familiar objects that will keep the kids comfortable like a favorite pillow and a soft blanket. Plan plenty of rest stops so everyone can stretch their legs and get some fresh air. If possible, avoid traveling during the hottest part of the day, scheduling time on the road in the earlier morning or late afternoon.

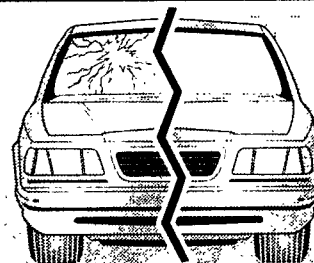
Some parents would argue that even after you've armed yourself with an array of car games, snacks and distractions, you'll still end up with game pieces, crumbs, trash and spilled drinks covering the floor of your freshly detailed family car. It is very important to stay on top of the havoc generated inside your car. Letting the mess linger adds to the level of sensory input for both you and your youngsters and can overload the circuits in no time.

Chuck Paulson, a father of four from Phoenix, Arizona, recommends The Absorber, a super-absorbent soft-sponge that can be used like a towel for fast and easy cleanups. It pulls moisture out of cloth seats or carpet, for those times when kid cups are not

as spill-proof as they claim. Wring it out and it's reusable; to clean, just rinse it out or toss it in the washing machine during nighttime hotel stops.

Linda Montgomery of Seattle, Washington, a mother of one, carries an empty 3-pound butter tub whenever she travels with kids in the car. She said, "If one of the kids gets sick, you can use the tub as a trash can; then you use the lid to re-cover the

TRIPS--PAGE 11



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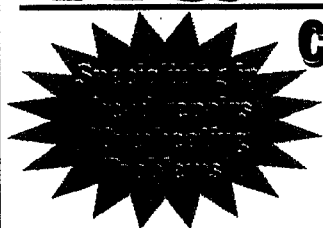
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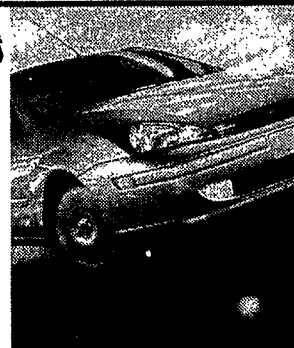
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Ten Ways You Can Save Money on Gasoline

THE SEA COAST ECHO

With fuel prices on the rise and concerns about future availability, you're probably searching for ways to conserve as much gas as possible. Learn how to get more mileage for your money with these easy tips, courtesy of Amsoil.

1. Drive with caution. Don't exceed highway speed limits. Use moderate-to-easy acceleration. Gas mileage is negatively affected by fast acceleration and fast deceleration. If possible, use cruise control on highway trips. Maintaining a constant speed helps reduce fuel consumption.

2. Maintain a properly

tuned engine. Dirty spark plugs do not create the maximum spark and cause reduced horsepower and increased emissions.

3. Go easy on the air conditioning. Limit use of air conditioning, especially on hot summer days.

4. Use synthetic lubricants. Switch to synthetic motor oil and drivetrain lubricants. Independent tests show savings of five to eight percent using Amsoil synthetic motor oil, gear lubes and ATF.

5. Maintain your car's air filter. Install a new air filter as needed. To get optimal efficiency from your engine, it has to breathe.



TO SAVE MONEY WHILE you're driving this spring and summer, Don't exceed highway speed limits. Use moderate-to-easy acceleration. Gas mileage is negatively affected by fast acceleration and fast deceleration. If possible, use cruise control on highway trips. Maintaining a constant speed helps reduce fuel consumption.

6. Take advantage of aerodynamics. Keep windows

rolled up if you are traveling over 40 mph. At highway speeds, traveling with the windows open can create a wind drag that will lower your mileage.

Sun roofs also disturb smooth aerodynamic air flow and reduce mileage. Also avoid using a roof rack; you can reduce aerodynamic

drag and improve fuel economy by placing items inside the trunk whenever possible.

7. Take good care of your tires. Make sure your tires are properly inflated and keep them balanced and rotated regularly. Use radial tires for less friction between tire and road. Also, make sure the front end is aligned for better mileage and a longer tire life.

8. Avoid excess weight. Pack light and clean out your trunk periodically. You would be surprised how much unnecessary stuff most people carry around in their trunks. Every 200 pounds of unnecessary weight shaves one mile per gallon off your gas mileage.

9. Minimize idling. One minute of idling uses more fuel than restarting your engine. When possible, avoid drive-throughs. Idling for as little as 10 minutes while you wait in line can waste 5 or 6 miles of gas. Limit warm-ups to 30 seconds.

10. Plan trips in advance. Make a list of errands and try to take care of as many as possible on the same trip.

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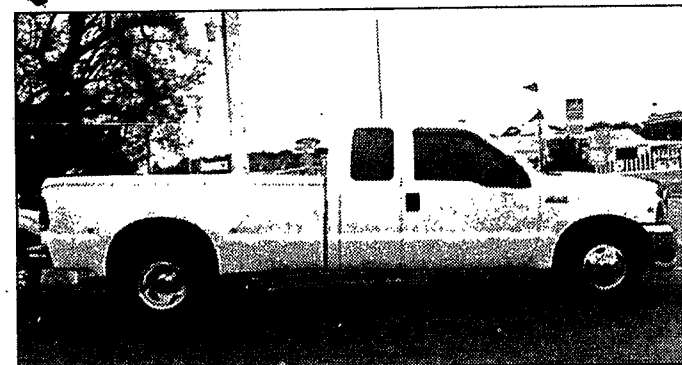
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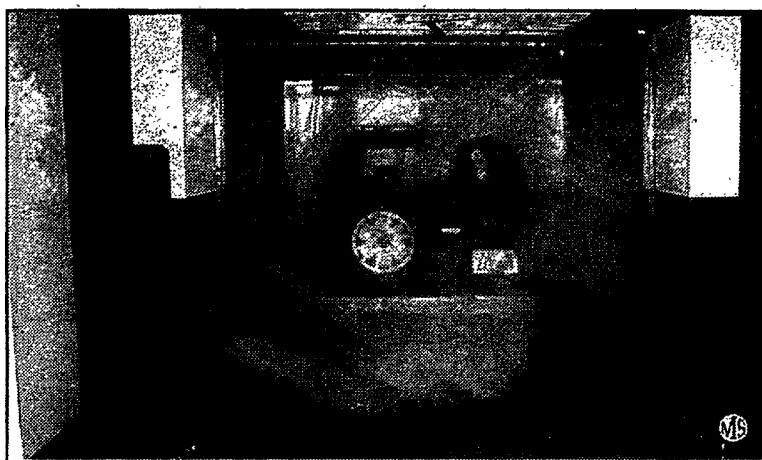
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Getting your car in shape for summer can be fast & easy

THE SEA COAST ECHO

Now that winter is over, thoughts of fitting into your swimsuit and spring cleaning come to mind. Why not also tack onto that list the sprucing up of your car at a professional car wash? With all the snow, road salt and freezing rain from the last few months, winter has produced some harmful effects on your car's finish and interior. And now there are warm weather hazards to contend with.

WARMER CLIMATE HAZARDS

Just as winter road salt eats away at your car's finish, in warmer climates, acid rain, falling leaves, dead bugs and other airborne debris also erode the appearance of your car.

"Acid rain damage is caused when high concentrations of emissions from fossil-fuel burning engines or plants react with your car's paint to form sulfuric and nitric acids," explains Mark Thorsby, executive director of the International Carwash Association (ICA).

"The result of this process is the penetration and etching of clear coat finishes, of which the protective qualities will then eventually corrode, exposing the paint to many harmful elements. A

car with bad acid rain damage could be significantly devalued at trade-in or resale time."

The best prevention is to keep your car clean by frequenting a professional car wash at least once or twice a month, especially following a rainy day.

Even the lightest shower could cause irreparable damage to your vehicle's finish if not quickly professionally cleaned.

At the car wash, have them apply a polymer-based or similar protective high-gloss wax to further protect the car's finish from such hazards as decaying bugs, bird droppings, tar oil and tree-sap.

MAINTAIN YOUR CAR'S VALUE AND APPEARANCE

With all the new hazards facing your car from the warmer weather, there are also many other reasons to regularly professionally clean your vehicle.

"Most car owners understand the value of changing motor oil regularly to protect the engine," states Thorsby. "But if they forget and instead choose to replace the engine, the car could still be as good as new. However, a

SUMMER--PAGE 12

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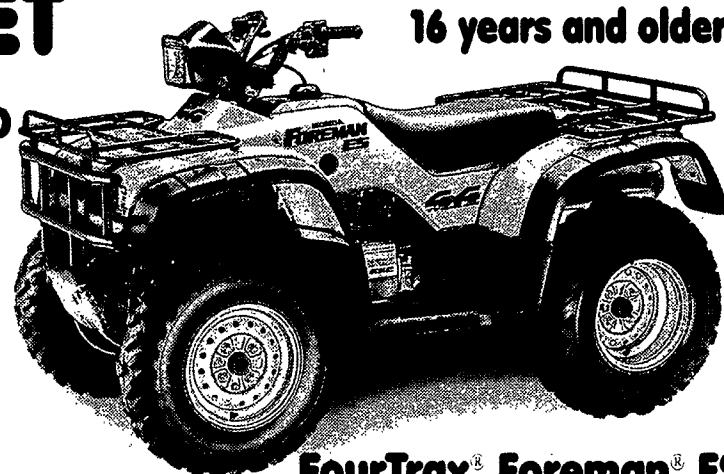
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honda.com BE A RESPONSIBLE RIDER Remember, ATVs can be hazardous to operate. For your safety always wear a helmet, eye protection and protective clothing. Please respect the environment and never ride on paved surfaces or public roads and obey the law. Keep in mind that riding doesn't mix with drugs or alcohol. Honda recommends that all ATV riders take a course and read their owner's manual thoroughly. FourTrax® Recon® and FourTrax® Foreman® ES are recommended for riders 16 years or older. For safety or training information, call the ASI at 1-800-887-2887. *No payments will be required for three months after the date of purchase to qualified customers. 6.9% fixed APR financing for 60 months on select new 2003 and prior model through American Honda Finance Corporation upon approved credit. Check with participating Honda dealers for complete details. Offer ends 4/30/03. FourTrax® Foreman and Best on Earth™ are trademarks of Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (1/03)

Is Replacing Your Old Car Worth the Effort?

Thinking about investing perhaps no more than the amount of a down payment to fix it up just may make the soundest financial sense. A little money can go a long way toward upgrading a car.

Here's how to consider this option objectively:

1. Visit a mechanic, and let him inspect your car. After compiling a list of mechanical needs, he can approximate the cost to put it back in good shape. If the car is paid for, you'll probably save money by giving it a new lease on life. Further, by having it repaired, you can make your car serviceable for another two to three years while saving toward its replacement. After all, you'll probably have more value to bargain with when you're ready to trade.

2. Diagnosing mechanical problems is one consideration, but how about a manicure? Car owners should look to buffing out the paint job, fixing dented fenders or replacing missing trim. Some touch-up work or perhaps a new paint job may be needed. How about pinstripes or adding rims to dress up the tires a bit?

3. Next, look at the interior. Does the fabric need to be cleaned and/or repaired? Would a

sunroof make "Old Faithful" snazzier?

To estimate the costs of a cosmetic upgrade, you'll need the help of a body and paint shop, as well as an upholstery and trim professional.

If you decide to revamp the car you already own, depending upon the extent of the project, you may need a little help from your bank. Most banks will be eager to finance a loan for repairs on an older car -- the sum will be less than a loan for a new car and, therefore, there's a reduced risk. Your payments will be smaller and on a shorter term also.

So, the options beckon:

- * a new car that may strain the budget and depreciate once you drive off the lot,

- * a used car that's an unknown, and

- * the once-beloved car you already own.

Remember, regardless of the work your car requires, it may not be as costly as the first two options. Put the pencil to it, and arrive at a conclusive figure. Treat your car to a make-over or an upgrade and, in return, it will give you extended years of driving enjoyment.



INSTEAD OF BUYING A NEW CAR, you may be able to save yourself the time and effort of going from dealership to dealership simply by repairing your old car. Consider using the money you would have used for a down payment to pay for the needed repairs. Is your old car squeezing you for everything you're worth? Are you fighting the urge, with every last ounce of determination, to head for the dealer's showroom or used-car lot? Well, whether it's the once-trusty family sedan, the once-shiny sports car or the pickup that was once the envy of truckers from Idaho to Ohio, your once-prized vehicle probably represents a sizable investment.

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How to Select a Reliable Used Car

WATCH OUT FOR LEMONS

A lemon is a vehicle that continues to have a defect that substantially impairs its use, value or safety. Generally, if the car has been repaired for our more times for the same defect within the warranty period and the defect has not been fixed, the car qualifies as a lemon. Many states have passed Lemon Laws, which makes people liable if they attempt to profit by selling a defective vehicle. Buying a used car can be a hair-raising experience. A slick salesperson can gloss over the damage an accident caused or lead you to believe the car is in better condition than it really is. This doesn't mean that you should throw in the towel and sign up for a high-interest lease; buying a used car still is the most affordable option around.

Before you take the plunge, it is important to ask



TO GET THE BEST VALUE FOR YOUR MONEY, It's important to know the right questions to ask before purchasing a used car.

several questions of the seller to get an idea of the purchase you'll be making. Following are a few ideas to help get you started.

1. Are you the first owner? If the owner has cared for the car, there usually will be receipts to prove it.

2. What's the mileage? Don't emphasize this too much, but do take it into account. Ask if they drove mostly on the highway or in the city. Highway miles are better, but this still is only one indicator. Accurate mileage can be assessed through maintenance records or by checking the stickers on the inside of the

driver's door.

3. Why are you selling the car? "Because I had a baby," is a good answer. "I just feel like it," can make you wonder if the car has needed continual repairs.

4. What condition is it in? The "Get What You Paid For" theory certainly applies to used cars. Ask how often the car has been maintained (oil checked, timing adjusted, tires rotated) just to get a general idea.

Ask to see receipts for this work.

5. Has it been in an accident? An accident can alter anything from the car's steering to the engine's performance; front-end damage

can especially be problematic.

6. Has the car been emissions-tested? Different states have different regulations, so find out what's required in your state. Be careful -- this can require complex repairs if the car isn't up to standards.

7. Any other problems? These might include problems with the engine (strange noise while running, oil leaks), the transmission (clunking sounds while shifting, slipping out of gear), the clutch (sticky, stiff or difficult to shift), the brakes (pulling or locking) and the body (rusts or dents).

Trips

Continued from Page 4

container until you have a chance to stop the car and get everyone cleaned up."

If you need to cool a fever, run The Absorber under water, then hold the cloth to your child's face or neck; it acts like a cool compress until you wring it out. It comes in its own carrying case, so when you're done you can toss it back in the glove box or under a seat until the next time you need it. If your family getaway involves camping, The Absorber also works great as a personal towel; wringing it out between uses eliminates loads of laundry.

In case you decide to bring Fido along on the trip, there are also colored Absorbers available that you can readily dedicate to drying the dog for those times that he's gotten into things he shouldn't have.

Safety First

Bring an emergency kit with band-aids, scissors, antiseptic and any medications family members may need. Pre-packaged kits can

be purchased at most major retailers. It's also a good idea to carry a flashlight.

In addition to the camera or camcorder you bring along to capture the memories, make sure to bring a camera to provide proof of any accidents. Storing a disposable camera in the car ensures that you always have one on hand. Also make sure to have supplies that will help you collect pertinent information in case of an accident.

A cell phone is also a good tool to have in case of emergency, says father of three and former police officer Dave Marsden of Los Angeles, California. Dialing 911 on your cell phone will connect you to the closest sheriff's office to your location.

Use your cell phone sparingly, though; according to safety experts, drivers who use the phone while driving are many times more likely to be involved in an accident.

Most importantly, stay focused and alert on the road.

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